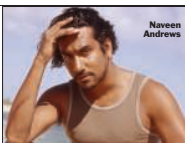


# STARS AND STRIPES®

**'Lost' actor  
gives character  
credit for fame**

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Naveen  
Andrews

**Who made  
best, worst  
NBA trades?**

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New Hornet  
Glenn Robinson

**Group takes  
in deployed  
owners' pets**

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SATURDAY, FEBRUARY 26, 2005

50¢

# 1st ID soldier charged in Iraq prisoner's death

17-year Army veteran pleads innocent to killing, abuse Page 8



## Fight to the finish

■ Ramstein girls defeat  
cross-town rival for  
Division I championship

■ Alconbury girls,  
Brussels boys are  
crowned first champs  
in Division IV

■ Roundup, scores from  
European basketball  
tournaments

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Alconbury plays Brussels on Friday

MICHAEL ABRAMS/Stars and Stripes

PHOTO ILLUSTRATION BY SIEGFRIED BRUNER  
Stars and Stripes

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## News Tracker ... What's new with old news

## States

**Blake murder trial:** The prosecution tried to bolster its murder case against Robert Blake by calling a police detective and the girlfriend of a key witness who claims the actor solicited him to kill his wife.

Detective Brian Tyndall testified Thursday that police determined Blake had bought a prepaid telephone calling card, which the prosecution claims was used to make the calls to hire a killer.

According to earlier testimony, the card was used under the belief that it would make the calls untraceable.

Tyndall was scheduled to resume his testimony Friday.

Blake, 71, is accused of murdering Bonny Lee Bakley on May 4, 2001. She was shot twice as she sat in a car near a restaurant where she and the former "Baretta" TV star had dined.

**Brain-damaged woman:** An attorney for the parents of Terri Schiavo says Florida's social services agency is seeking a 60-day delay in the removal of the woman's feeding tube while it investigates new allegations of her abuse and neglect.

Matt Davis, with the law firm representing Bob and Mary Schindler, said Thursday the 11-page confidential document was shared with attorneys in the life-or-death legal battle between the Schindlers and their daughter's husband, Michael Schiavo. A spokesman for the Department of Children & Families declined to comment.

Circuit Court Judge George Greer already was expected to rule Friday on whether to grant a longer stay in connection with other filings in the case involving the severely brain-damaged woman.

**Olympic committee's N.Y. visit:** The city rolled up its red carpet after four razzle-dazzle days of wooing International Olympic Committee delegates, who were treated to jazz from Wynton Marsalis, dinner with Mayor Michael Bloomberg and spectacular views of snow-covered Central Park.

Now comes the hard part: waiting until July 6, when the IOC announces its winner from among five finalists to host the 2012 Games.

Although the 13-member IOC Evaluation Commission saw the city from center court at Madison Square Garden to centerfield at Yankee Stadium, New York's hopes could hinge on its proposed new stadium on Manhattan's West Side.

The commission held its one and only New York news conference before leaving, emphasizing the importance of the proposed \$1.7 billion facility.

**San Diego mayoral race:** Supporters of Donna Frye's write-in bid for mayor of San Diego on Thursday appealed a ruling that upheld Dick Murphy's election to a second term, keeping alive a bid to count thousands of disqualified ballots that likely would have tipped the contest to the city councilwoman.

Orange County Superior Court Judge Michael Brenner ruled Feb. 2 that the county registrar acted properly in refusing to count 5,531 ballots on which voters wrote Frye's name but failed to darken the adjoining bubble. The registrar said state law required that the bubbles be filled.

Murphy, a Republican, defeated Frye, a Democrat, by 2,108 votes in a three-way race and was sworn into office Dec. 8 after a series of legal challenges.

**California firebombings:** A man was indicted on federal arson charges Thursday involving firebombings linked to an eco-terror group that targeted residential and commercial construction sites.

Ryan D. Lewis faces five counts of arson and multiple counts of attempted arson for his alleged involvement in incidents this winter in three communities east of Sacramento.



**Serious rape suspect:** Brent J. Brents, 35, a convicted child molester who is a suspect in a series of rapes in a city neighborhood of Denver, sits shackled in the back of a police car as he is driven into the Denver City Jail Feb. 19. Prosecutors filed 80 felony charges Thursday against Brents. He is suspected of sexually assaulting five women and two girls, most of them within a week, earlier this month. He faces sexual assault, attempted first-degree murder and other charges.

Lewis, 21, of Newcastles, admitted taking part in some of the crimes, according to an FBI affidavit.

**Falwell in hospital:** The Rev. Jerry Falwell could be released from a hospital this weekend or early next week, his son said Thursday.

Falwell, 71, checked into Lynchburg General Hospital in Virginia on Sunday suffering from congestion. Doctors confirmed Wednesday he had pneumonia.

Jerry Falwell Jr. said Thursday that his father, the chancellor at Liberty University, was making steady progress.

Another son, Jonathan Falwell has temporarily assumed preaching duties at Thomas Road Baptist Church, where his father is pastor.

**Los Alamos workers sentenced:** Two former Los Alamos National Laboratory workers accused of buying television sets, barbecues and hunting gear on a lab purchase account were sentenced Thursday to prison terms.

Both men pleaded guilty last October in federal court to charges of conspiracy and mail fraud; prosecutors dropped 26 other charges against each of the former employees.

Peter Bussolini, 67, was sentenced to six months in prison followed by six months of house arrest and \$30,000 in fines. Scott Alexander, 42, was sentenced to a year and one day in prison.

## World

**Assassination in Lebanon:** A U.N. investigator on Friday promised to be impartial in the probe into the Feb. 14 assassination of former Lebanese Prime Minister Rafik Hariri in Beirut, a murder that has sparked anti-government demonstrations and international uproar.

Peter Fitzgerald, the head of the three-member U.N. team, started the investigation with meetings with Lebanese officials.

The Lebanese government has insisted that it lend the inquiry but has expressed willingness to cooperate with foreign investigators.

Fitzgerald, Ireland's deputy police commissioner, was expected to visit the seafloor street where a powerful bomb hit Hariri's motorcade, killing 17 people and injuring more than 100.

**Strait of Malacca piracy:** Malaysia does not want help from outside the region in patrolling one of the world's most strategic waterways — the Strait of Malacca — a government minister said Friday, despite a recent rise in pirate attacks there.

Officials are "quite happy" with security in the strait, a major oil and shipping lane between Malaysia and Indonesia's Sumatra Island, said Foreign Minister Syed Hamid Albar.

The minister was commenting on an International Maritime Bureau report that 37 pirate attacks occurred in the waterway last year, up from 28 in 2003.

Last March, Adm. Thomas Fargo, commander of U.S. forces in the Pacific, said an American plan to heighten security in the waterway might require a detachment of elite U.S. troops to be stationed nearby.

**N. Korean nuclear crisis:** President Roh Moo-hyun urged South Koreans on Friday to be calm following North Korea's recent claim that it has nuclear weapons, and he said it will take both flexibility and a principled stand to persuade the communist nation to abandon its atomic weapons program.

In a major policy speech before the National Assembly, Roh also assured that South Korea's alliance with the United States was more stable than ever, saying his government's policy of "saying what we want to say and argue what we want to argue" has made its relations with Washington healthier.

Roh's emphasis on flexibility and principle appeared to embrace two divided camps — Roh's liberal ruling party that stresses reconciliation with the North to help it open up and democratize, and his conservative critics, who accuse Roh of being too soft on the North.

**Bird flu in Vietnam:** Vietnam confirmed a new case of bird flu Friday, heightening the sense of urgency as an international conference on fighting the deadly virus ended with calls for concerted action to prevent a possible global pandemic.

Health and animal experts said the long-term strategy for battling the disease must focus on minimizing the risks of infection to poultry and people by a virus now firmly established within flocks of wild birds in the region, beyond hope of quick eradication.

Stories and photo from The Associated Press

# 6th Fleet gets its new flagship

## USS La Salle heads to Norfolk for decommission

BY JASON CHUDY  
Stars and Stripes

GAETA, Italy — The USS Mount Whitney officially assumed its new role as the 6th Fleet flagship during a formal, broad-ranging ceremony Friday, taking over duties from the USS La Salle.

The change also brings new roles for the recently arrived Mount Whitney, Vice Adm. H.G. Ulrich III, 6th Fleet commander, told Stars and Stripes before the ceremony.

In addition to its normal role for 6th Fleet and NATO Striking and Support Forces Southern Europe, Ulrich said the Mount Whitney will be available for duties with the U.S. European Command, if needed, and will also become the NATO Response Force flagship in July.

The NRF's rotating headquarters moves to Lisbon, Portugal, from Naples on July 15, where it will remain until July 2006. Ulrich already lives and works in Lisbon as commander of the NATO Joint Command, one of the many "hats" given to him as 6th Fleet commander.



JASON CHUDY/Stars and Stripes

USS La Salle, left, and the USS Mount Whitney sat tied to the pier in Gaeta, Italy, Friday shortly after a ceremony in which La Salle turned over 6th Fleet flagship duties to the Mount Whitney.

The ceremony also marked the official move of the 6th Fleet staff from its hillside Gaeta headquarters to its new facility at Naval Support Activity Naples, about 60 miles to the southeast.

Last year, 6th Fleet and the London-based Naval Forces Europe headquarters started moving to Naples as the two staffs began integrating as one organization.

Finally, the ceremony served as an opportunity for military and civilian officials to say goodbye to the La Salle, which departed Friday evening for Norfolk, Va., where it will be decommissioned.

"This is a necessary change and one that is good for the Navy," said La Salle's commander, Capt. Herman Shelanski.

The 41-year-old vessel was the longest-serving 6th Fleet flagship, having assumed that role more than a decade earlier from the cruiser USS Belknap.

Since Sept. 11, 2001, the La Salle took on the additional role of serving as a floating base for maritime intervention operations of terrorist-connected shipping.

At the start of the war in Iraq, the La Salle's staff spent nearly 60 days at sea controlling two air-

craft carrier groups and one of Marine-laden amphibious assault ships.

Last year, it served NATO as part of the seaboard protection force for the Summer Olympics in Athens, Greece.

"From NATO exercises to anti-terrorism maritime interception operations... we've gone as far away as the Irish coast and the Black Sea," Shelanski said about his time in command of La Salle. "Now it's time to bring her back and decommission her May 27."

E-mail Jason Chudy at: chudyj@mail.estrines.osd.mil

## Aviano drug charges

AVIANO AIR BASE, Italy — A 31st Aircraft Maintenance Squadron senior airman pleaded guilty to several drug charges in a court-martial Tuesday, a base spokesman said.

Mohammad Odattalla pleaded guilty to conspiracy to wrongfully use and possess marijuana, wrongful possession of marijuana with the intent to distribute, wrongful use of marijuana, wrongful use of psilocin and wrongful use of seeds containing THC.

He pleaded not guilty to a charge of wrongful communication of a threat, and the judge ruled in his favor.

Another charge of wrongful possession of marijuana in a hush-hush court-martial was dropped due to a pre-trial agreement, the spokesman said.

Odattalla was sentenced to 10 months' confinement and ordered to forfeit \$823 a month during that time. He also was reduced in rank to E-1 and given a bad-conduct discharge.

He had already served 83 days of confinement before the trial.

From staff reports

# Army official visits Grafenwöhr construction sites



BRIAN TEMPLE/Courtesy of the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers

During their tour of Efficient Basing Grafenwöhr construction sites, Walter Bogdanow, deputy engineer for Corps of Engineers' Southern Germany Area Office, left, provides details on the plans for the new Grafenwöhr Physical Fitness Center, from left to right, Brig. Gen. Merdith "Bo" Temple, commander of Corps of Engineers North Atlantic Division, Lt. Gen. Carl Strock, U.S. Army chief of engineers and Col. Lee Staab (not pictured), commander of the corps' European District.

## Chief of Army Corps of Engineers takes in big project under way as part of Europe's transformation plan

BY RICK EMERT  
Stars and Stripes

GRAFENWÖHR, Germany — The head of the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers visited Grafenwöhr on Wednesday to take a look at construction projects that are part of Efficient Basing Grafenwöhr.

Lt. Gen. Carl A. Strock, the Army's chief of engineers, met with soldiers, civilians and local nationals involved in the project. "The Grafenwöhr visit is a realization of a vision that I have watched closely over the last five years," Strock said. "It is a demonstration of our investment in soldiers and quality of life."

Efficient Basing Grafenwöhr is a U.S. Army Europe initiative to consolidate the command and control of six battalion-size elements in line with the Army's transformation plan.

The Grafenwöhr project is a plan by U.S. Army Europe to bring together six battalions into one region where the soldiers will work and live.

"He got to see firsthand... how the restructuring of the Army is

going to look physically," said Kathy Gibbs, 100th Area Support Group spokeswoman.

The EBG planners and managers went over some of the current construction projects, projects

solidating the training functions into one area," Argueta said. "It is designed like a college campus that provides minimal distraction for soldiers in [NCO Academy] classes."

Following the meeting, Strock went on a wind-shield tour of some of the projects and toured the new Grafenwöhr Physical Fitness Center, which is about halfway complete.

He also toured the site of the future Netzberg housing area, which will consist of about 835 built-to-lease housing units for military families, Argueta said.

Strock said the projects would lead to "improving conditions for soldiers and families who eventually will be based at Grafenwöhr."

The visit from the Army's top engineer motivated the people who have been heavily involved in the project, Argueta said.

"It was great to see our leaders come and visit the folks on the ground who are doing great things," he said. "It helped re-charge my battery; a lot of motivation came out of that visit."

E-mail Rick Emert at: emert@mail.estrines.osd.mil

*"The Grafenwöhr visit is a realization of a vision that I have watched closely over the last five years. It is a demonstration of our investment in soldiers and quality of life."*

Lt. Gen. Carl A. Strock  
head of U.S. Army Corps  
of Engineers

that have been completed and projects in the design phase, said Edward Argueta, program manager.

One of the completed projects is the Camp Normandy facility, which included renovations of buildings for the Noncommissioned Officers Academy classrooms and the construction of a dining facility.

"The interest there was in con-



Marines load duff bags as 220 members of Marine Wing Headquarters Squadron 2 prepare to depart Marine Corps Air Station Cherry Point in Havelock, N.C. Suicide rates for all the services began rising in 2002 which leads leaders to believe that stress is broadly linked to deployments.

# Suicides in Marine Corps up 29 percent last year

BY ANN SCOTT TYSON  
The Washington Post

WASHINGTON — The Marine Corps suffered a 29 percent spike in suicides last year, reaching the highest number in at least a decade, with the demanding pace of military operations likely contributing to the deaths, a top-ranking U.S. Marine said Thursday.

Thirty-one Marines committed suicide in 2004, all of them enlisted men, not commissioned officers. The majority were younger than 25 and took their lives with gunshot wounds, according to Marine statistics.

Another 83 Marines attempted suicide. There were 24 suicides in 2003, and there have not been more than 29 in any year in the last 10.

Although last year's suicide rate rose, it was still below the national average for a comparable civilian group, in keeping with an established pattern of suicide being lower in the U.S. military than in the civilian population.

Marine commanders say the rise in suicides continues a worrisome three-year trend that is likely linked to stress from the sharp-

ly increased pace of war-zone rotations. At the same time, they said the increase in suicides is not directly related to service in Iraq or Afghanistan; since 2001 24 percent of the suicides have been committed by Marines who have been deployed there, the statistics show.

It is "not only Iraq, it's just the [operational tempo] in general, that's what I think," Gen. Michael W. Hagee, the Marine Corps commandant, told reporters at a breakfast meeting Thursday.

Hagee's remarks echoed a strong warning in a Dec. 13 memo that he issued on suicide prevention. "This problem is pervasive and is impacting Marines throughout the Corps, not just those who have been deployed in support of the global war on terrorism," the memo said.

"The increased operational

tempo that our Corps is experiencing may be affecting the ability of our Marines to deal with perceived overwhelming stresses associated with relationship, financial and disciplinary problems."

Indeed, about 70 percent of Marine suicides over the past four years have been caused by problems in personal relationships, which can be exacerbated by heavy workloads, said Cmdr. Thomas Gaskin, a behavioral health specialist for the Corps' Personal and Family Readiness Division at Quantico, Va. "That is the single biggest stressor," he said.

With a force that is the youngest in the military services and predominantly male, the Marine Corps has generally experienced the highest suicide rate among the military branches because its demographics mirror a high-risk group in the general population. More than 60 percent of Marines are younger than 25, and 16 percent are teen-agers.

Suicide rates for all the services began rising in 2002, and the Army had an increase in 2003, the first year of the Iraq war. This leads experts to believe that stress is broadly linked to deployments.



Hagee

## New JCAHO standards forcing Army, Navy to hire more pharmacists

BY TOM PHILPOTT  
Special to Stars and Stripes

The Air Force and Navy likely will have to hire a few hundred more pharmacists over the next 18 months to meet tougher standards being imposed on the role of pharmacy technicians.

Even the Army, which for years has kept a higher ratio of pharmacists to pharmacy technicians than the other medical services, could be required to boost its number of pharmacists by an August 2006 deadline.

The Joint Commission on Accreditation of Healthcare Organizations formally notified the military services general this month of a change in standards for accredited military hospitals and clinics to meet regarding handling and dispensing of medications.

JCAHO no longer will exempt the military from a requirement that a pharmacist review all prescriptions and hospital medication orders before drugs are dispensed.

The exemption recognized that military pharmacy techs receive more comprehensive training than private sector counterparts, said Joseph L. Cappiello, the commission's vice president for field operations. But standards on patient safety have evolved to where allowing technicians alone to fill prescriptions — by having military techs check other techs no longer will be acceptable if hospitals and clinics are to stay accredited.

The change takes effect March 1 but the services have 18 months to hire the extra pharmacists they need or, in some cases, to buy telemedicine technology for pharmacists to supervise dispensing of drugs at remote sites.

Col. Phil Samples, pharmacy

consultant to the Air Force surgeon general, said the service alone will need from 150 to 300 more pharmacists.

All but two Air Force pharmacies, both of them overseas, have at least one pharmacist on staff, Sample said, but not enough overall to provide direct supervision of every prescription filled. Prescriptions still get filled, for example, if the pharmacist goes to lunch. This more relaxed standard has allowed the Air Force to keep its ratio of technicians to

pharmacist at four-to-one versus two-to-one found in most retail pharmacies and civilian hospitals.

Capt. Elizabeth Noland, program manager

for Navy pharmacies, said about 100 of its satellite pharmacies are technician-run, which means they won't need direct supervision of pharmacists. Not impacted are ships at sea and remote operational outposts as in Iraq or South Korea.

The services want to avoid closing satellite pharmacies, a third option. But finding and paying hundreds of additional pharmacists won't be easy. DoD's war outpaces supply given expanding chains of retailers and supermarkets who want to dispense drugs, and the growing dependence of pharmacies on medications to maintain health.

All Navy pharmacy operations are under review "because there are a lot of ways to skin this cat," said Noland. "Our goal is going to be on patient safety but maintaining the same level of service to beneficiaries."

Col. Mike Heath, top pharmacy consultant for the Army, said he can't say until a "gap analysis" is complete how many more pharmacists even his service might need. "I imagine we will have to hire more," he said.

condition, said Dr. (Maj.) Alison Ward of the U.S. Army Hospital in Würzburg, Germany.

"It's also true for children whose parents get divorced, whose dad has a corporate job and has to move where the child changes from elementary school to middle school," Ward said. "All those types of changes at least temporarily change the child's ADHD, usually to the worse."

Ward said military families often can find help easier because of the close relationship between military schools and clinics.

Christine Sloan, a special-needs consultant at Child and Youth Services at Patch Barracks, said military parents could check with their base's Exceptional Family Members Program to see if help is available for ADHD.

E-mail: Charlie Coon at: coon@mail.stripsides.org

## Stuttgart group discusses pros, cons of medicating distracted kids

BY CHARLIE COON  
Stars and Stripes

STUTTGART, Germany — Adam Dickensheet was to be a problem child.

He groined off, couldn't sit still and always was disrupting the classroom. Then he got on drugs and became a model student.

"I can do the class work, I can hear and process everything the teacher is saying," said Dickensheet, a senior at Patch High School. "Time slows down."

Dickensheet was one of 25 people Wednesday who attended "Making Sense of Medications and Other Treatment Options," a discussion led by Dr. Stephen Morris at Stuttgart's attention deficit hyperactivity disorder group's monthly meeting.

Morris, acting chief of child and adolescent psychiatric service-

**"My grade point average was 3.8 and then I went off [medication] for one semester — the first semester of ninth grade — and my grade point average was 1.6."**

Adam Dickensheet, senior at Patch High School

es at the Heidelberg Health Clinic, said giving drugs such as Ritalin and Dexedrine and their variants to children has risks and benefits.

"Don't think [medication] is the total answer," Morris said. "Don't fear it. Understand it and make a rational decision."

Dickensheet said he was first diagnosed with ADHD while in the fourth grade. Through the years, he tried different combinations of drugs and taking them at different times of the day.

Sometimes the side effects,

such as feeling antisocial or feeling like the drugs were controlling him instead of the other way around, caused him and his doctors to tweak his treatment.

The bottom line, Dickensheet said, is that the medication helps.

"My grade point average was 3.8," Dickensheet said. "And then I went off [medication] for one semester — the first semester of ninth grade — and my grade point average was 1.6."

The drugs are stimulants and are believed to help the brain's different parts work together, Mor-

ris said, adding that the illness might be misnamed. There is no deficiency of attention, he said, but an abundance of it, and the child has trouble screening all the sights and sounds he experiences.

ADHD was given its name in 1987 and is diagnosed by observing how a child behaves in various conditions and locations. If a child doesn't like school, for example, that doesn't necessarily mean he has ADHD. The ADHD child is continually distracted, hyperactive and impulsive in a variety of situations.

Military life can exacerbate the

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Pfc. Richard Roman, Battery C, 1st Battalion, 6th Field Artillery, center, hugs his family — wife Tamira Roman and son Anthony — Thursday on Warner Barracks. Roman was one of 80 Bamberg, Germany-based soldiers who returned from Iraq.

PHOTOS BY RICK EMERT/Stars and Stripes

## Bamberg GIs return to grateful families

BY RICK EMERT  
Stars and Stripes

BAMBERG, Germany — About 80 soldiers from 1st Battalion, 6th Field Artillery Regiment and 1st Infantry Division headquarters came home from Iraq to a crowd that included families, friends, the 1st ID commander — and a Chihuahu named Chico.

Among the returning soldiers at Warner Barracks was Brig. Gen. John W. Morgan III, the 1st ID's assistant division commander (maneuver).

During a brief ceremony, Maj. Gen. John R.S. Battiste thanked the soldiers for all they did in Iraq. Then the soldiers were released to reunite with family and friends.

As she waited for the soldiers to arrive, along with her red-sweatered Chihuahua, Crystal Vega said it had been a long separation from her husband, Sgt. Javier Vega, of Battery C, 1-6 Field Artillery.

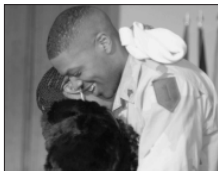
"He was in Iraq last year, then we [relocated] to Germany and he left again," she said. "We've had three months together in two years."

It wasn't any easier for the spouses whose husbands were gone for one year.

"The separation was very hard," said Tamira Roman, whose husband, Pfc. Richard Roman, also with Battery C, "if I hadn't been surrounded by other military wives in the same boat, this would have been even harder. I was in the States for a while, and people there really can't understand what we go through."

Communication also helped, the spouses said.

"It was difficult, but we prayed a lot and



Sgt. Adam Jones, 1st Battalion, 6th Field Artillery, right, hugs his wife, Jamnica, during the return ceremony.

we communicated almost every day with e-mails and telephone calls," said Sharon Ford, whose husband, 1st Sgt. James Ford, with Battery C, 1-6 Field Artillery, was among the returnees. "It's finally over; he's really home. He and his soldiers are out of danger."

Ford learned Wednesday that her husband would be in the group returning Thursday.

"I didn't sleep at all [Wednesday] night," she said. "It was a long night, but this last hour of waiting will be even longer."

And it was longer, with the soldiers delayed by about 15 minutes. But James Ford didn't care about the delay.

"I'm happy to be home," he said. "I'm proud of what we did in Iraq, but I'm glad we're home. Now I'm going to spend some quality time with my family, and let my daughter [Shaniquetta] talk my head off."

E-mail Rick Emert at: [emert@mail.strips.com](mailto:emert@mail.strips.com)

## NetPets.org helps foster animals of deployed GIs

BY SANDRA JONTZ  
Stars and Stripes

Steve Albin thought he'd be enjoying retirement right about now with lots of nothing to do.

Instead, the former dog breeder and owner of a kennel and grooming store works full-time running a global network, pairing troops and their pets with volunteers who'll give those pets a temporary home.

Albin started NetPets.org shortly after the Sept. 11, 2001, terrorist attacks, figuring the nation would be going to war.

"I heard what happened during the last desert war. If military members had no friends or family who could step up to the plate, they were left with non-acceptable options: shelter or abandonment."

"Either way, they would never see their pet again... What a morale builder," Albin deadpanned. "In order to serve and protect, you have to kill your best buddy."

About 5,000 foster families worldwide make up the mosaic of pet lovers and owners that is the MilitaryPets/POSTER Project, specifically designed to connect foster homes with military members who must be deploying, moving or going to school.

South Carolina resident Lynn Boccia is

fostering "Semper," a 2-year-old shepherd-mix owned by a Marine who deployed for seven months.

"With all we ask of our service personnel... I wondered what I could do on my end. I can't take up arms and fight side-by-side, but I can open my home to their pets. That's at least one worry off their mind," said Boccia, assistant clerk for the Beaufort County Council.



Courtesy of Stripes

Lynn Boccia of South Carolina is looking after Semper, a 2-year-old shepherd-mix owned by a deployed Marine.

joined her home already filled with two dogs and two cats, and aside from the occasional "stand-off," they've all gotten along. Every Monday morning when she gets to work, she e-mails the Marine, whom she declined to identify, keeping him in the loop on Semper's activities and shenanigans, "like chasing moles in the backyard."

Pets have to be legal (no venomous snakes, for example), up-to-date on all vaccinations, and spayed or neutered if they are not show animals, Albin said. Foster families must provide a list of references and contact information for a local veterinarian.

Anyone interested in taking in a pet or making a charitable donation can visit [www.NetPets.org](http://www.NetPets.org).

E-mail Sandra Jontz at: [jontz@mail.strips.com](mailto:jontz@mail.strips.com)

## Bill to target military policy on homosexuals in service

BY JOHN HENDREN  
Los Angeles Times

WASHINGTON — Lawmakers called Thursday for an end to the Pentagon's ban on gays in the military, citing findings in a government report that the prohibition hurts recruiting and retention even as the war in Iraq strains the military's ability to maintain its troop strength.

A Government Accountability Office study, released Wednesday, found that since 1993, the Department of Defense had spent at least \$191 million to recruit and train replacements for almost 10,000 servicemembers discharged under the ban — including more than 300 with critical nuclear skills. On Thursday, Rep. Marcy Meehan, D-Mass., prepared to offer a bill that would end the Pentagon's 12-year-old policy, known as "don't ask, don't tell."

"The conventional justification for 'don't ask, don't tell' has been that allowing gays to serve undermines military readiness," Meehan said. "Now we have the numbers to prove that the policy itself is undermining our military readiness."

The prohibition on gays in the military is a longstanding principle of military law. But in an effort to keep a campaign promise to lift the ban, President Clinton established "don't ask, don't tell" in early 1993. Under the policy, the military is not allowed to ask about sexual orientation and service members are not to reveal it.

If the fact that they are gay becomes public, servicemembers can be discharged.

Although Meehan's measure is unlikely to be approved under the Bush administration, the renewed challenge to the prohibition on gay servicemembers marked the latest, and perhaps most creative, effort to improve the military's ability to fill its ranks as it strains to keep up troop strength for military conflicts in Iraq and Afghanistan.

The Army National Guard is at 24 percent below its recruitment goal for the past four months, and the Army Reserve is 7 percent down.

The Marines failed to meet their goal in January for the first time since before the 1991 Persian Gulf War.

Pentagon officials continue to insist that they expect to meet their annual goals by Sept. 30, the end of the fiscal year.

The war in Iraq has offered potential recruits an increasingly stark choice between almost certain combat duty and an expanded array of career options in an improving economy. Candidates for what was once weekend and summer duty in the Guard or Reserve are less likely to join now, analysts said.

"As the economy improves, you see a tightening of the labor pool."

In addition, you have the active-duty army competing with the Guard and Reserves. It's a triple threat. Daniel Goutte, a military analyst at the Lexington Institute, an Arlington, Va., public policy center.

# Bomb kills 3 U.S. soldiers

By PATRICK QUINN  
The Associated Press

**BAGHDAD** — A roadside bomb killed three U.S. soldiers and wounded nine others north of Baghdad on Friday, the military said, while the government announced the capture of three fig-

ures associated with Iraq's bloody insurgency.

In political developments, United Iraqi Alliance candidate Ibrahim al-Jaafari said Iraq's most influential Shiite cleric, Grand Ayatollah Ali al-Sistani, has endorsed his nomination for prime minister.

The attack occurred around midday in Tarmiyah, about 20 miles north of the capital. The military said three U.S. soldiers were killed Thursday in separate attacks.

"There was a group of American soldiers walking in the road while around five Humvees were parked behind them," said Waheed Nahed, 35, who lives in the area.

"I heard a very loud explosion and I saw bodies flying."

Residents saw about a dozen injured U.S. soldiers lying on blood-spattered ground.

Lt. Col. Clifford Kent, a spokesman for the U.S. Army's 3rd Infantry Division, said the patrol was hit by an improvised explosive device — the term commonly used to describe a roadside bomb. Three soldiers were killed and nine were wounded, Kent said.

The road was immediately blocked off by the U.S. military and Iraqi security forces, and helicopters took the injured away, according to Nahed and Alan Nagy, who works at a nearby factory.

Both said they heard gunfire after the incident.

Attacks Thursday left 30 people dead, including the three Americans killed in separate incidents.

In Baghdad, the government said one of the three men arrested was Talib Mikhilif Asnan Walman al-Dulaymi, also known as Abu Qutaybah, a key aide to Jordanian-born terrorist Abu Musab al-Zarqawi.

Al-Zarqawi leads an insurgency affiliated with Osama bin Laden's al-Qaida network.

Abu Qutaybah, who was captured during a Feb. 20 raid in Anah, about 160 miles northwest of Baghdad, "was responsible for determining who, when and how terrorist network leaders would meet with al-Zarqawi," the government said.

He "filled the role of key lieutenant for the Zarqawi network, arranging safe houses and transportation as well as passing packages and funds to al-Zarqawi," the government said.

"His extensive contacts and operational ability throughout western Iraq made him a critical figure in the Zarqawi network."

Al-Zarqawi has a \$25 million U.S. bounty on his head and is believed to have orchestrated a wave of car bombings, kidnappings, assassinations and beheadings across the country.



Jaafar Mahdi on Friday watches prayers from the balcony of his house in the Sadr City area of Baghdad. A roadside bomb killed three U.S. soldiers north of Baghdad on Friday, a day after three soldiers were killed in separate attacks across the country.

## U.S. deaths in Iraq

The Associated Press

As of Thursday, at least 1,486 members of the U.S. military have died since the beginning of the Iraq war in March 2003, according to an Associated Press count. At least 1,130 died as a result of hostile action, according to the Defense Department. The figures include four military civilians.

The AP count is six higher than the Defense Department's tally, last updated at 10 a.m. EST Thursday.

The British military has reported 86 deaths; Italy, 20; Ukraine, 18; Poland, 16; Spain, 11; Bulgaria, seven; Slovakia, three; Estonia, Thailand and the Netherlands, two each; and Denmark, El Salvador, Hungary, Latvia and Kazakhstan one death each.

Since May 1, 2003, when President Bush declared that major combat operations in Iraq had ended, 1,348 U.S. military members have died, according to AP's count. That includes at least 1,021 deaths resulting from hostile action, according to the military's numbers.

The latest deaths reported by the military are:

- A U.S. soldier was killed Thursday by an explosive north of Samarra, Iraq.
- A U.S. soldier was killed Thursday by an explosive in Diyala province near Qaryat, Iraq.
- The latest identifications reported by the military:
- No identifications reported.

The government also said it apprehended the leader of an al-Qaida-affiliated cell allegedly responsible for carrying out a string of beheadings.

Mohamed Najam Ibrahim was arrested in Baquba, 35 miles northeast of Baghdad, the government said Thursday, but it gave no date for the arrest.

The endorsement of al-Jaafari came after members of the clergy-backed United Iraqi Alliance openly questioned its decision Tuesday to nominate the 58-year-old leader of the conservative Islamic Dawra Party as its

candidate for prime minister following the nation's landmark Jan. 30 elections.

Politicians are negotiating behind the scenes to forge the alliances needed to win enough backing in the 275-seat National Assembly for the post of prime minister.

Meanwhile, the U.S. command said two American soldiers were killed and two wounded in separate bombings, one northeast of Baghdad in Qaryat, and a second near Samarra, west of Qaryat.

The military said a third soldier was killed in action west of Baghdad, in Anbar province.

## Report: U.S. unaware of backgrounds of some civilians

The Associated Press

**WASHINGTON** — The U.S. Justice Department did not know about problems in the tenures of four former state prison officials when it hired them to help set up Iraq's prison system, the department's internal watchdog said Friday.

But the information would not have changed the decision to send the men to Iraq, even if officials had been aware of civil lawsuits against them, Inspector General Glenn Fine said.

Fine said his review of the contractors' term in Iraq also "found no evidence to suggest that they played any role in the abuses" at the U.S.-run Abu Ghraib prison.

Fine's inquiry also identified weaknesses in the way background checks are performed, including 22 cases in which contractors were sent to Iraq without required background checks.

A Democratic senator, Charles Schumer, requested Fine's review in June, saying the four former state officials had backgrounds that should have precluded them from the private contracting jobs.

Each had lawsuits or other problems linked to their tenures in state government, Schumer said. One of the four, Terry Stewart, was sued by the Justice Department in 1997, when he ran Arizona's Corrections Department, over allegations that female inmates were repeatedly raped, sexually assaulted and watched by corrections workers as they dressed, showered and used the bathroom.



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# 1st ID soldier faces murder, abuse charges

BY STEVE LIEWER

Stars and Stripes

WÜRZBURG, Germany — A 1st Infantry Division senior non-commissioned officer was charged this week with killing one prisoner and mistreating others last fall during the unit's deployment to Iraq.

Sgt. 1st Class Jorge L. Diaz, 34, of Company C, 1st Battalion, 77th Armor Regiment, appeared Wednesday before a military judge in Würzburg.

The 1st ID's staff judge advocate released a list of the charges Friday.

Diaz, a 17-year veteran, pleaded innocent to one count of premeditated murder, one count of mistreating a prisoner, two counts of assault, one count of making a false official statement and one count of trying to impede an investigation.

Diaz is accused of committing the crimes during a cordon-and-search operation of Iraqi

buildings near Balad on Oct. 24-25. According to the charge sheet, Diaz is alleged to have forced a blindfolded prisoner on Oct. 24 to hold a smoke grenade with the pin pulled, pointed a pistol to his head, and punched and choked him.

The next day, during a separate search, he allegedly shot and killed an Iraqi, Thaher Khaleefa Ahmed.

Diaz also is accused of telling his soldiers to lie about the inci-

dent and of falsely telling an Army investigator that Ahmed had made a threatening movement toward him.

According to the charge sheet, prosecutors do not intend to seek the death penalty.

A trial is tentatively scheduled for early May.

The Diaz case is the latest involving alleged abuse of Iraqi terror suspects by U.S. soldiers.

Sgt. Michael Williams and Spc. Brent May of the 1st Cavalry Divi-

sion were charged in September with premeditated murder in the deaths of three Iraqis.

Chief warrant officers Jefferson Williams and Lewis Welshofer Jr., Sgt. 1st Class William Sommer and Spc. Jerry Loper of the 3rd Armored Cavalry Regiment were charged in October in the November 2003 death of Iraqi soldier and prisoner of war Mawhood during questioning.

Stripes editor Pat Dickson contributed to this report from Washington. E-mail Steve Liewer at [sliewer@istripes.com](mailto:sliewer@istripes.com)



U.S. Maj. Gen. Eric Olson hands out awards Friday to soldiers of 2nd Battalion, from Kearney Base in the province of Pakтика, Afghanistan. Olson warned against cutting American force strength in Afghanistan, saying that insurgents remain a grave threat.

## General: Too soon to cut Afghanistan force

BY STEPHEN GRAHAM

The Associated Press

ORGUN, Afghanistan — Taliban and al-Qaida insurgents remain a grave threat to Afghanistan, a senior U.S. general said Friday, warning against cutting American troop strength in the country while Afghan and NATO forces are not ready to fill the breach.

Maj. Gen. Eric Olson said he was concerned that American policymakers will seize on a recent drop in militant attacks to cut the 17,000-strong U.S. force in Afghanistan to ease the pressure on American forces stretched by their deployment in Iraq.

"If there is no real spring offensive (by the Taliban), I think there may be pressure on the international community to draw down force levels and I think that would be a big mistake," Olson, the No. 2 U.S. commander in Afghanistan, told The Associated Press.

"I think there's still an insurgency to win here, and I think the Afghan central government is at this point very much dependent on the support of the coalition," he said.

While Olson reiterated that the threat of al-Qaida leader Osama bin Laden had "gone cold," he said U.S. forces were keeping up the

hunt and he didn't anticipate any letup in that part of their mission.

"There are no specific leads to bin Laden right now, but we collectively are just as determined to continue to hunt him," he said.

Under Olson, who leaves Afghanistan next month, U.S. troops have set up a string of small bases across the south and east of the country to back up officials from President Hamid Karzai's government and to intercept militants crossing from Pakistan.

Commanders say that decision helped protect landmark October elections and has convinced many ordinary Afghans to turn their back on the Taliban.

Olson said he was not convinced that NATO troops would match the numbers or capabilities of the U.S. units they should eventually replace.

Afghanistan's new army and police will need five to 10 years before they can begin to perform properly, he said.

Olson praised Pakistan for a bloody crackdown on militants, including suspected al-Qaida fighters, on its side of the border, but said they had "by no means" finished off forces with ambitions to retake Afghanistan.

## Trial set for captain accused of killing badly injured Iraqi

BY KEVIN DOUGHERTY

Stars and Stripes

The court-martial of a 1st Armored Division captain accused of murdering an Iraqi man last year is set to begin March 28, according to Army officials.

If coverage of the preliminary hearings last fall is any indication, the trial of Capt. Rogelio M. Maymulet should generate great interest among servicemembers and the media. Some view the case as "an act of mercy" to a dead or dying man, while Army prosecutors maintain it was murder.

Maymulet is charged with premeditated murder and dereliction of duty relating to the May 21 death of a man believed to be associated with the insurgency campaign against U.S. troops. At the time of the incident, Maymulet commanded Company A, 2nd Battalion, 37th Armor Regiment, and was viewed by many superiors as a rising star.

"Captain Maymulet maintains his innocence, and I think that the court members will reach the right and just verdict," Capt. Will Helixon, the lead defense attorney, said in a telephone interview Friday.

The trial will be held in the courtroom on Wiesbaden Army Airfield, Germany.

Maj. Michael Indovina, a division spokesman, said the proceedings are expected to last several days.

"It will definitely go the full week, based on the number of witnesses," Helixon said.

The list for both sides includes about 45 to 50 names, Helixon said.

Prosecutors are expected to introduce a 10-minute video of the incident and the events preceding it. An unmanned aerial vehicle operating at the time near the Iraqi cities of Kufa and Najaf apparently captured the shooting on tape.

The video was not played in open court during the pretrial hearing. The encounter between Maymulet and the Iraqi man came at the end of a vehicle chase between U.S. soldiers and a car believed to contain militant forces.

In a U.S. Central Command news release following the incident, the Army stated "the driver and a passenger were wounded" when U.S. forces shot at their vehicle. "Shortly thereafter, the wounded driver was shot and killed at close range."

At the preliminary hearing, defense attorneys presented expert medical testimony and a report by the on-scene medic. The report stated there were at least two bullet wounds to the base of the driver's skull and that brain matter was on his clothes and in the car. A medical expert said a person in such a state could still move, but it would likely be involuntarily.

As the scene was unfolding, there were gunbattles with insurgents in the immediate vicinity, and evacuation of the injured was not possible, according to defense witnesses.

During Maymulet's Article 32 hearing in December, fellow officer 1st Lt. Colin Cremin testified that Maymulet told him he then shot the Iraqi in the base of the neck or the back of the head.

"It was something he didn't want to do, but it was the compassionate response," Cremin testified. "It was definitely the humane response."

Whatever the circumstances, prosecutors argue Maymulet unlawfully killed a man who, at the time, was alive, even if his chances for survival were slim.

E-mail Kevin Dougherty at [doughertyk@istripes.com](mailto:doughertyk@istripes.com)

## Nine Afghan troops killed in ambush

The Associated Press

KANDAHAR, Afghanistan — Taliban insurgents launched three separate attacks in southeastern Afghanistan, killing nine Afghan troops and wounding an American soldier while sustaining heavy casualties themselves, officials said Friday.

At least nine Afghan soldiers were killed when rebels ambushed their vehicle in Helmand province on Thursday, said Haji Wali Mohammed, a spokesman for the governor.

"We lost contact with the Afghan soldiers late Thursday, and their bodies were found today," he said, adding that authorities would hunt down and arrest the "terrorists" who carried out the attack.

Taliban rebels immediately claimed responsibility for the attack in the district of Chakul.

"Yes, the Taliban did this and we will launch more attacks against government and coalition forces," Mullah Latif Hakimi, who often speaks for the Taliban, said by telephone.

In neighboring Kandahar, an American soldier was shot and wounded when he and his unit came

under small-arms fire while investigating a roadside bomb on Thursday, the U.S. military said in a statement.

An insurgent was also injured and taken into custody after the attack. Both men were being treated at a coalition hospital. The U.S. soldier was listed in stable condition.

Meanwhile, rebels ambushed an Afghan patrol in Khost province, near the border with Pakistan, injuring five soldiers Thursday.

Afghan and U.S. forces fired back, killing three Taliban suspects and injuring another.

Two U.S. helicopters set to survey the area hours later were attacked from the ground with small-arms fire. One of the helicopters fired back, killing seven more suspected insurgents, the U.S. military said.

The series of attacks follows a period of relative calm in Afghanistan amid rising hope that the insurgency is faltering.

Taliban spokesmen have said attacks are down only because of the harsh winter, and that they would resume once the weather improved.

## IN THE WORLD



Nuns look at the 10th floor of Rome's Gemelli Polyclinic Hospital where Pope John Paul II remains hospitalized on Friday. The pontiff is breathing on his own and is not suffering from pneumonia, the Vatican said Friday, a day after he was rushed to a hospital for surgery to ease another breathing crisis.

## Pope said to be breathing on his own after surgery

BY VICTOR L. SIMPSON

The Associated Press

VATICAN CITY — Pope John Paul II is breathing on his own and is not suffering from pneumonia, the Vatican said Friday, taking pains to cast the pope's condition in a positive light after a day after he was rushed to a hospital for surgery to ease another breathing crisis.

Papal spokesman Joaquín Navarro-Valls said the frail 84-year-old pontiff spent a restful night at Rome's Gemelli Polyclinic hospital, where he was taken by ambulance Thursday after suffering his second bout of breathing trouble in less than a month.

John Paul's latest hospitalization was certain to further fuel speculation about whether he could continue as pope, and what would happen if he were incapacitated.

The pope had no signs of a lung infection such as pneumonia, Navarro-Valls told reporters. He said the operation to cut a small breathing hole in the pope's throat "was not an emergency procedure."

"It was a question of assuring adequate breathing of the patient," he said. A doctor trained in emergency assistance has been on call at the Vatican but there was never any need for him, Navarro-Valls said.

Italian news agencies had reported that John Paul was placed on a respirator after the surgery, but Navarro-Valls said the pope "had no need of assisted breathing."

"Assisted means mechanical, which wasn't used yesterday nor last night nor this morning. There was no need," he said.

"He's feeling better. He has a significant feeling of relief," the papal spokesman said. He said John Paul had no fever, the pope's post-operative condition was progressing normally and that doctors had used a "mild" anesthesia on the pope.

He said a decision would be made Saturday on what the pope will do for his Sunday noon blessing, a tradition very dear to the pontiff.

"The Holy Father spent a night of tranquil rest," he said.

"This morning, he ate breakfast with a good appetite. He's breathing on his own and cardio-circulatory conditions remain good."

"Upon the advice of his doctors, the pope must not speak for several days, so as to favor the recovery of the functions of the larynx," Navarro-Valls said.

## U.N.: Attack kills 9 peacekeepers in northeast Congo

BY BRYAN MEALER

The Associated Press

KINSHASA, Congo — Unidentified attackers ambushed U.N. peacekeepers on patrol Friday in northeastern Congo, killing nine Bangladeshi troops in the deadliest assault ever on the 6-year-old U.N. mission, officials said.

The attack occurred near the town of Kafu, 20 miles northwest of Bunia, capital of Congo's lawless Ituri province, U.N. spokesman Mamadou Bah said.

The nine men were among 21 Bangladeshis patrolling Friday morning in the area of a camp housing civilians who have been displaced by persistent fighting in Ituri, Bah said.

"These blue helmets were out there protecting people, and they got ambushed while doing it," Bah said.

There was no immediate word on the identity of the attackers, who wore no uniforms. Suspicion fell on militia of Ituri's Lendu tribe, whose rivalry with the ar-

ea's Hema tribe has been fueled by the influx of arms from Congo's devastating 1998-2002 war and by outsiders vying for Ituri's mineral wealth.

The attackers hid in the bush and struck quickly, running away immediately after, said Col. Dominique Demange, head of the roughly 16,000 troops in Congo — the world's largest peacekeeping deployment.

The United Nations sent an attack helicopter and a transport helicopter with a rapid reaction force, but bad weather limited their effectiveness, Demange said.

U.N. peacekeepers are overseeing a transition toward peace in Congo, where the five-year war, involving six nations, killed more than 3 million people by aid workers' estimates, most through strife-induced hunger and disease.

About 4,800 U.N. forces are in Ituri. Since 1999, fighting in the east northeastern district of Ituri has killed more than 50,000 and forced 500,000 to flee their homes, U.N. officials and human rights groups say.

## 2 U.N. soldiers may be forced to leave Haiti

The Associated Press

PORT-AU-PRINCE, Haiti — Two Pakistani police officers working as U.N. peacekeepers in Haiti have been suspended and may face repatriation after a U.N. investigation found they had sex with a prostitute in a banana field, U.N. officials said Thursday.

The men will be repatriated if a board of inquiry confirms the findings of a U.N. and Haitian police investigation, said Damien Onses-Cardona, spokesman for the 7,400-member force.

The board is expected to

make a decision in two weeks, Onses-Cardona said.

"If board confirms the findings, the men will be repatriated and then it will be up to their country of origin to decide what to do with them," Onses-Cardona said.

The investigation stemmed from allegations that three Pakistani police officers had raped a 23-year-old woman in the central city of Gonaves.

When interviewed by police and U.N. inspectors, the woman acknowledged she had been paid for the sex, Lafaille said. Attempts to reach the woman were unsuccessful.

## Wallet returned to survivor

MONTEVIDEO, Uruguay — One of 16 survivors of a 1972 Andes plane crash made famous by a book and movie has gotten his wallet and jacket back 32 years after leaving them in the mountain snows.

Eduardo Strauch, who survived 72 days in high mountain snows, received the aged

wallet, drivers license and other personal items Wednesday, a week after they were found in the Andes by a mountain climber.

Strauch, now a 57-year-old architect and father of five, was aboard a plane that crashed high in the Andes on Oct. 12, 1972.

A Mexican hiker chanced upon the items just yards from the site where the plane went down.

## Anglicans divided over gays

NEWRY, Northern Ireland — Anglican leaders have "no intention" of watering down the worldwide communion to deal with explosive differences over homosexuality, a senior bishop said Friday.

Archbishop of Perth Peter Carnley, primate of Australia's Anglican church, said

the decision of Anglican leaders to ask the U.S. Episcopal Church and the Anglican Church of Canada to withdraw from a key council of the global communion for three years did not mean the 77 million-strong Anglican community was heading for a split.

Carnley rejected suggestions the communion might become "a kind of loose-knit federation."

From The Associated Press

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## IN THE STATES

# Gunman kills ex-wife, bystander

The Associated Press

TYLER, Texas — A man angred over a child support dispute with his ex-wife opened fire with an AK-47 assault rifle outside the Smith County Courthouse, killing her and a man who tried to stop the bloodshed.

Before police killed the gunman a few miles away Thursday afternoon, three law enforcement officers and the man's son, who had been acting as a mediator between his parents, lay wounded on the historic courthouse square.

Police estimated David Hernandez Arroyo Sr., who had a history of spousal abuse and weapons violations, shot 50 rounds outside the courthouse. Arroyo, 43, wore a military flak jacket and a bulletproof vest.

"He definitely came well-armed and prepared. We do understand there had been

## Attack outside Texas courthouse leaves 4 wounded

some threats made by him the previous week," Police Chief Gary Swindle said.

But Joshua Winters, an attorney who represented 41-year-old Maribel Estrada, said he doesn't believe she thought her ex-husband was dangerous. Estrada worked at a meat packing plant in Tyler and raised a 17-year-old and a 6-year-old with the help of her eldest son, Winters said.

Estrada and Mark Alan Wilson, 52, died in the gunfire. Smith County Sheriff's Deputy Sherman Dollison, 28, was in critical condition at East Texas Medical Center on Friday morning after being shot four times — in the liver, lungs and legs. The man's son, 23-year-old David Hernandez Arroyo Jr., was

shot in the legs and was in fair condition Friday. A sheriff's lieutenant and a Tyler police detective were treated and released.

Friends who visited the son in the hospital Thursday night said he told them that his father was always open about having a collection of weapons. The younger Arroyo said his father told him not to be afraid to use the guns if he were threatened, the friends said.

Aurea Saneaz said the son told them, "And look now, he used them on us."

Wilson was credited with saving the son's life.

"One of the deputies at the scene said if it hadn't been for Mr. Wilson, the son would be dead," Sheriff J.B. Smith said.



David Hernandez Arroyo Sr.

# Where have all the shoulder-fired missiles gone?

By ROBERT BURNS

The Associated Press

WASHINGTON — It has been known for years that thousands of light and lethal shoulder-fired missiles are in black-market circulation. What is not known is exactly who has them and whether many have fallen into the hands of terrorists or criminals.

A worrisome puzzle, it explains why the United States and Russia signed an agreement Thursday to cooperate in destroying surplus Soviet-era SA-7s and other portable anti-aircraft missiles. The smallest of these are durable, relatively cheap and easy to smuggle.

The United States also has dealings with several other countries, including Nicaragua, Bosnia, Cambodia and Liberia, for Washington to provide technical assistance or money to destroy anti-aircraft missiles.

The State Department estimates that about 1 million shoulder-fired anti-aircraft missiles have been produced worldwide since the 1950s. The number believed to be in the hands of "nonstate actors," such as terrorist groups, is "in the thousands," the department says.

"What's driving this is concern about the threat to commercial aviation," said Wade

Boese, research director at the private Arms Control Association. A single successful missile attack on a passenger plane could paralyze the airline industry, at enormous economic loss, he said.

There has been only one known attempt against a commercial airliner outside of a war zone. In November 2002, two surface-to-air missiles barely missed an Israeli charter airliner taking off from the airport in Mombasa, Kenya, with tourists returning to Israel. Osama bin Laden's al-Qaida network claimed responsibility for the attempt.

The U.S.-Russian agreement signed by Secretary of State Condoleezza Rice and De-

fense Minister Sergei Ivanov calls for sharing information about exports of these missiles to third countries.

Of note, Boese said, is the absence of a commitment by either Washington or Moscow to halt the exports.

The United States began selling its Stinger shoulder-fired missile to foreign countries in 1982. The CIA secretly transferred an estimated 2,000 to Afghanistan mujahideen rebels in the mid-1980s, and they were used to down hundreds of Soviet helicopters and transport aircraft.

There also are an unknown number of SA-7 and other types of shoulder-fired missiles in the hands of insurgents in Iraq.

# Texas study: Black, Hispanic drivers stopped at higher rates

By KELLEY SHANNON

The Associated Press

AUSTIN, Texas — Two out of three Texas law enforcement agencies searched black and Hispanic drivers at higher rates than white motorists at traffic stops in 2003, according to a racial profiling study released Thursday.

When searched, however, white motorists were at least as likely as blacks or Hispanics to be found with illegal items such as drugs or weapons, the report found.

The data were compiled from information more than 1,000 Texas law enforcement departments were required to record under state law. Most of the agencies responded to public information requests for the study.

The findings show large disparities between minority and white motorists who were stopped and searched, said Scott Henson, spokesman for the American Civil Liberties Union of Texas. "Now the question becomes: Why is that?" he said.

James McLaughlin Jr., executive director of the Texas Police Chiefs Association, said he hadn't seen the study, but that the findings didn't sound new.

"It's a replay of the reports that



Gary Bledsoe, president of the NAACP of Texas, on Thursday discusses a study on racial profiling that claims that two out of three Texas law enforcement agencies reported searching blacks and Hispanics at higher rates than whites.

were put out a year or so ago," he said.

Such studies are generally flawed, he said, because they don't take into account factors such as the time of day a stop is made, the part of town and other variables.

The study's recommendations include adopting uniform report-

ing standards for racial profiling data; requiring extra data to be collected by police agencies; and establishing an independent statewide repository for reports.

The report also recommended banning consent searches — when an officer seeks a motorist's permission to do a search to look for illegal items, even if there is no probable cause.

## Connecticut legislative panel backs civil unions

HARTFORD, Conn. — Connecticut's legislature moved closer to legalizing civil unions for same-sex couples, as a key panel approved a measure that could make it the first state in the country to recognize gay unions through legislative action rather than court order.

The legislature's Joint Judiciary Committee voted 25-13 to pass a bill Wednesday that would give gay and lesbian couples the same state rights as married heterosexuals, except for the right to obtain a marriage license.

Proponents said Thursday the civil unions measure has bipartisan support among lawmakers and will likely pass the House and Senate by early June, when the session ends.

## Former Steeler Swann readying for campaign

HARRISBURG, Pa. — Former Pittsburgh Steelers star Lynn Swann has formed a campaign committee to raise money for a potential run for governor in 2006.

Swann named his committee Team 88, the number he wore as a wide receiver for the Steelers from 1974 to 1982, when the team won four Super Bowls.

On Wednesday, Swann filed papers to form a campaign committee for governor, which allows him to begin raising money for a campaign.

## Winter storm blankets Northeast

A winter storm blanketed the Northeast on Thursday, forcing the federal government and schools around the region to close early and triggering a spate of accidents during the afternoon rush hour.

The snow coated an area that included Delaware, Pennsylvania, Maryland, New Jersey and New York, and was expected to move north later in the day. Several cities reported accumulations of about 6 inches, and some were bracing for up to 9 inches.

In New Jersey, trains were unusually crowded and passengers slipped on unshoveled platforms. Planes were reported delayed by up to two hours at Newark airport. Several accidents reduced traffic on New Jersey's clogged roads to a crawl.

The forecast amounts would push 2004-05 snowfall totals past the seasonal average in most places in New Jersey.

Drivers in the nation's capital found mostly wet road conditions as pavement temperatures hovered just above freezing most of the day. About 1,500 road crews in Maryland were salting the roads.

From The Associated Press

# Homeland Security panel angers privacy advocates

## Some say members lacking necessary knowledge

BY LESLIE MILLER

The Associated Press

WASHINGTON — Privacy advocates say a committee set up recently to advise the Homeland Security Department on privacy issues amounts to little more than a fox guarding a chicken coop.

One member works for a high-tech company that distributed software that many computer users complained contained adware.

Another works for a conglomerate whose subsidiary turned over personal records of airline passengers to a government contractor.

Bruce Schneider, chief technology officer of Counterpane Internet Security, a Mountain View, Calif., computer security company, and author of "Beyond Fear," said he looked at the 20-member list and laughed.

"It's just plain weird," Schneider said Thursday. "Where are all

the privacy people?"

Homeland Security Chief Privacy Officer Nuala O'Connor Kelly said the committee represents a cross-section of viewpoints, including people who have criticized the department.

"We picked the best board from the people who applied," said Kelly, adding that more than 150 people applied for the committee that she announced Wednesday.

Privacy is a sensitive issue for the Homeland Security Department as it embarks on ambitious plans to look into the backgrounds of everyone who boards a plane, enters the country or works in the transportation industry.

But some committee members have had their own problems with information privacy and security. They include:

■ Joseph Leo, vice president of Science Applications Interna-

tional Corp. Thieves stole computers containing personal information on tens of thousands of employees of SAIC, a defense contractor involved in some of the U.S. government's most sensitive work.

■ D. Reed Freeman, chief privacy officer for Claria Corp. In February 2003, Claria, then known as Gator, settled a suit brought by The New York Times, The Washington Post and other media companies for installing unauthorized pop-up ads on their Web sites.

Freeman, who worked in privacy enforcement at the Federal Trade Commission, went to Claria after the company got into trouble for its practices, Kelly said.

Despite the criticism, Kelly pointed to several privacy advocates on the board: Tara Lemmey, former executive director of the Electronic Frontier Foundation, a privacy rights group; Lance Hoffman, a George Washington University professor; and James Harper, editor of Privacy.org and a self-described critic of government surveillance.

# Kansas attorney general seeking abortion records

The Associated Press

TOPEKA, Kan. — The Kansas attorney general, a staunch opponent of abortion, has demanded the medical records of nearly 90 women and girls who had late-term abortions, saying he needs the material to investigate crimes.

The two abortion clinics involved in the case say the state has no right to such personal information and are fighting the request in the Kansas Supreme Court.

But Attorney General Phill Kline insisted Thursday he needs the records because he has "the duty to investigate and prosecute child rape and other crimes in order to protect Kansas children."

Sex involving someone under 16 is illegal in Kansas, and it is illegal in the state for doctors to perform an abortion after 22 weeks unless there is reason to believe it is needed to protect the mother's health.

The clinics argued that unless the high court intervenes, women who obtained abortions could find government agents knocking at their door.

The clinics said Kline demanded their complete, unedited medical records for women and girls who sought abortions at least 22 weeks into their pregnancies in 2003. Court papers did not identify the clinics.

The records sought include the patient's name, medical history, details of her sex life, birth control practices and psychological profile.

The clinics are offering to provide records with some key information, including names, edited out.

On Oct. 21, state District Judge Richard Anderson ruled that Kline could have the files. The clinics then filed an appeal with the high court. No hearing has been scheduled.



Kline

## Flight 93 memorial designers meet

SOMERSET, Pa. — The designers who gathered Thursday at the Somerset Historical Center believe they have come up with an idea for a national memorial that will not only represent what happened in the sky and on the ground on Sept. 11, 2001, but also communicate the story decades from now.

Representatives from the five groups of finalists in the Flight 93 national memorial design competition met not far from the crash site near Shanksville to gather information that could help them flesh out their design concepts. The finalists have until June 15 to submit more detailed plans to a second jury, which will select a winning design by Sept. 11.

## Boy dies in Calif. gang shooting

LONG BEACH, Calif. — Gang members opened fire on a group of students a block from a high school Thursday, killing an 11th grader and injuring another boy, police said.

No arrests were made but there are "some very good leads," Sgt. David Cannon said. The identities of the victims and their ages were not immediately released.

## Maintenance worker shoots boss

LOS ANGELES — A street maintenance worker who had reportedly been reprimanded for coming in late shot and killed his boss and another employee, authorities said.

The suspect, who was not immediately identified, then drove himself to a police station and surrendered Thursday night. Police found an AK-47 rifle in his car.

The Los Angeles Times quoted sources as saying that the man had been admonished for being late Thursday morning, and the dispute escalated throughout the day. The victims worked for the city's Bureau of Street Services.

From The Associated Press



A black box flight recorder is displayed at the United Nations in this 2004 photo. The black boxes that help determine the causes of airframe crashes will have to hold more data and be more reliable, the Federal Aviation Administration said Thursday.

## FAA nixes cockpit cameras, mandates better black boxes

BY LESLIE MILLER

The Associated Press

WASHINGTON — No video cameras would be required in airliner cockpits under proposed federal regulations, but the black boxes collecting flight information must be capable of holding far more data for use in crash investigations, the Federal Aviation Administration says.

The National Transportation Safety Board had recommended that aircraft be required to have video cameras. Some pilots, however, have expressed concerns about invasion of privacy and contended the constant presence of a camera could make it harder to do their jobs.

Although the FAA rejected the video camera requirement, it called for stricter requirements for the black boxes. The NTSB, which investigates crashes, had lobbied for more data gathering in cockpits.

Safety investigators have cited the failure of black boxes to yield useful information about several fatal airliner accidents, including the 1998 crash of Swissair Flight 111 off the coast of Halifax, Nova Scotia, and the 1999 crash of EgyptAir Flight 990 off the Massachusetts coast.

In those two accidents, the black boxes shut off before the planes crashed.

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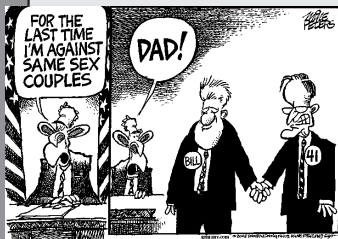
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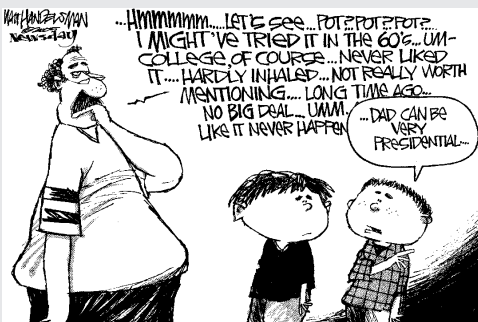
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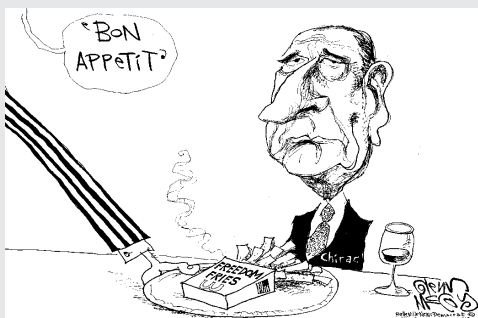
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## YOUR MONEY

## Bank fees add up, but some can be avoided

BY EVA M. AUGSTUMS  
The Dallas Morning News

No matter where you bank these days, there are more discounts you can get and they can easily add up.

If you grab cash out of another bank's ATM, be prepared to pay a couple of dollars to your bank, plus another couple to the ATM's bank.

Overdraw your account or bounce a check, and your bank could slap you with an overdraft fee and an insufficient-funds fee. The person or company that you wrote the check to may also charge you a fee.

And if you believe you're getting free checking, think again. At the very least, you're going to have to pay for the checks.

"We have to have fees," said Gail Enda, senior vice president of marketing and member services at American Airlines Federal Credit Union. "It costs money to run a financial institution."

But that doesn't mean you have to be the one to pay the fees.

Simply put, poorer customers cost banks money. If a customer doesn't keep much money deposited in a bank but demands a lot of services, a bank loses money.

In 2001, the average consumer who couldn't afford to meet minimum balance requirements on a regular checking account paid \$228 in fees, according to the U.S. Public Interest Research Group.

Industry experts say that amount is higher today, as banks continue to raise existing fees, invent new ones and make it harder to avoid them.

## Smart customers find ways to save money

As with many businesses, the more you buy, the more discounts you get. If you have fewer accounts at your bank, you can expect to have less flexibility with fees.

It's very difficult to find an account that is completely fee-free.

Banks and credit unions offer no-fee, no-interest checking accounts, but there always seems to be some sort of catch.

"Everyone advertises free checking, but there's not a fee unless you do something wrong," said John Sutton, vice president of branch operations for Credit Union of Texas. "Plus, if you want checks for your checking account, you are going to have to pay for them."

Also, having just one account doesn't necessarily give you privileges of other bank services. An additional fee may be charged for products such as overdraft protection and online bill paying.

**Why the charge:** The account may be free to the customer, but the bank still has to pay transaction costs.

**The cost:** Free, if you keep your account in good standing. If you want to write checks, you are going to have to pay them.

**How to avoid them:** There are many companies out there that provide and print checks for less than what you pay if you ordered

them through your bank. Or you could try to only use debit cards and online bill paying.

If you need cash and use another bank's ATM, you are going to be assessed an out-of-network fee.

In 2002, 69 percent of the nation's banks charged fees for non-bank customer withdrawals, according to the Federal Reserve.

**"We have to have fees. It costs money to run a financial institution."**

Gail Enda

Senior vice president of marketing and member services at American Airlines Federal Credit Union

About 10 percent of banks and savings associations charged an annual fee, which averaged nearly \$12 for ATM services.

"If you're going out on a Friday night, you have to make sure you don't use the ATM at the bar, because it's going to cost you your thing like \$6," said Jim Teha of Myesta, a consumer education group.

"Those that want convenience will pay for it."

**Why the charge:** When you pay an access fee, you are paying for the delivery of your cash where you need it — within 24 hours a day, seven days a week.

**The cost:** Plan on paying \$1 to \$2 to the bank that owns the ATM, plus anywhere from \$1 to \$3 to your bank.

**How to avoid them:** Use your own bank's ATM or those owned by institutions that do not charge fees to noncustomers. And if you frequently use another bank's ATM, consider making larger withdrawals so that you incur fewer ATM access fees.

If an account balance has slipped below the minimum your bank requires, you may incur a single monthly fee.

If you have money in multiple accounts or do some other business with them, such as an auto or home loan, ask whether the balance can be combined to meet

the minimum requirements.

"Each bank is going to offer many different programs," Tehan said. "If one doesn't work for you, you just need to shop around."

**Why the charge:** The account may be free to the customer, but the bank still has to pay transaction costs.

**The cost:** Ranges from a couple of dollars on up, depending on the type of account and whether it accrues interest.

**How to avoid them:** Maintain the balance.

You thought you had enough money in your checking account when you withdrew money from the ATM, but you didn't.

As a courtesy, the bank probably will cover the expense. However, it'll cost you.

**Why the charge:** The bank is paying for and fixing your mistake.

**The cost:** In 2002, the average overdraft and insufficient-funds fee at Texas banks were both a little more than \$22 each. An additional fee may be charged for every day your account is overdrawn.

**How to avoid them:** If you occasionally bounce checks, resolve to keep a cushion in your account. Start by leaving \$200 in your account and pretending it's not there. Don't think you can afford the \$200? If you're the average bank customer, you probably paid more than that in fees last year.

Another option is to sign up for overdraft protection (sometimes it's free). And don't count on a lag time between the time you write a check and it hits your bank. With technological and regulatory changes, that time is disappearing.

More banks are using the Internet to offer products and services or otherwise make connections with consumers. Unlike a bank branch, online banking sites never close. They're available 24 hours a day, seven days a week, and they're only a mouse click away.

"Online bill pay can be very convenient with certain accounts," said Consumer Action spokeswoman Linda Sherry. "If you're comfortable with the technology, it can be very cost-effective."

**Why the charge:** Most banks pass on a provider and convenience fee to their customers.

**The cost:** Not for consumers. Monthly costs range from \$5 to \$6.

**How to avoid them:** Find a bank that doesn't charge.

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| 558.2     | 259.88    | Dow Jones Utilities      | 348.86    | +1.67  |
| 7,671.7   | 6,211.3   | NYSE Composite           | 6,251.28  | +80.87 |
| 1,526.26  | 1,158.74  | Amex Index               | 1,595.34  | +7.45  |
| 1,251.78  | 1,252.82  | Nasdaq Composite         | 1,251.70  | +0.01  |
| 1,211.90  | 1,069.72  | S&P 500                  | 1,200.20  | +9.40  |
| 548.29    | 549       | S&P MidCap               | 548.39    | +0.19  |
| 656.11    | 515.99    | Russell 2000             | 627.56    | +7.02  |
| 12,043.38 | 10,268.52 | DJ Wilshire 2000         | 11,818.04 | +20.23 |

| NYSE                      |              |          |        |       |
|---------------------------|--------------|----------|--------|-------|
| Most Active (\$1 or more) | Name         | Vol      | Change | % Chg |
| 1,000                     | Microsoft    | 3,173.43 | +1.25  | +0.04 |
| 1,000                     | Intel        | 2,913.91 | +24.40 | +0.84 |
| 1,000                     | SPDR S&P 500 | 2,785.20 | +24.40 | +0.84 |
| 1,000                     | Microsoft    | 2,779.61 | +11.12 | +0.40 |
| 1,000                     | Time Warner  | 2,455.23 | +17.38 | +0.71 |
| 1,000                     | Microsoft    | 2,455.23 | +17.38 | +0.71 |
| 1,000                     | Microsoft    | 2,455.23 | +17.38 | +0.71 |
| 1,000                     | Microsoft    | 2,455.23 | +17.38 | +0.71 |
| 1,000                     | Microsoft    | 2,455.23 | +17.38 | +0.71 |

| KEY DEFENSE STOCKS    |       |    |       |       |
|-----------------------|-------|----|-------|-------|
| Name                  | Vol   | DE | Last  | % Chg |
| Advanced Technologies | 1,000 | 17 | 41.12 | +1.38 |
| Boeing                | 1,000 | 17 | 41.12 | +1.38 |
| Computer Sciences     | 1,000 | 17 | 41.12 | +1.38 |
| General Dynamics      | 1,000 | 17 | 41.12 | +1.38 |
| Lockheed Martin       | 1,000 | 17 | 41.12 | +1.38 |
| Northrop Grumman      | 1,000 | 17 | 41.12 | +1.38 |
| Raytheon              | 1,000 | 17 | 41.12 | +1.38 |
| United Technologies   | 1,000 | 17 | 41.12 | +1.38 |
| Westinghouse          | 1,000 | 17 | 41.12 | +1.38 |
| Yokogawa Electric     | 1,000 | 17 | 41.12 | +1.38 |

| KEY MUTUAL FUNDS         |       |       |       |       |
|--------------------------|-------|-------|-------|-------|
| Name                     | Vol   | NAV   | Last  | % Chg |
| Fidelity Invest - Growth | 1,000 | 32.48 | +0.32 | +1.0  |
| Fidelity Invest - Growth | 1,000 | 32.48 | +0.32 | +1.0  |
| Fidelity Invest - Growth | 1,000 | 32.48 | +0.32 | +1.0  |
| Fidelity Invest - Growth | 1,000 | 32.48 | +0.32 | +1.0  |
| Fidelity Invest - Growth | 1,000 | 32.48 | +0.32 | +1.0  |
| Fidelity Invest - Growth | 1,000 | 32.48 | +0.32 | +1.0  |
| Fidelity Invest - Growth | 1,000 | 32.48 | +0.32 | +1.0  |
| Fidelity Invest - Growth | 1,000 | 32.48 | +0.32 | +1.0  |
| Fidelity Invest - Growth | 1,000 | 32.48 | +0.32 | +1.0  |
| Fidelity Invest - Growth | 1,000 | 32.48 | +0.32 | +1.0  |

## EXCHANGE RATES

| Military rates             |  | \$1 Buys |
|----------------------------|--|----------|
| Dollar buys                |  | \$0.7388 |
| British pound              |  | 1.5196   |
| Japanese yen (Feb. 26)     |  | 102.60   |
| South Korean won (Feb. 26) |  | 976.00   |
| Commercial rates           |  | \$1 Buys |
| Bahrain (Dinar)            |  | 0.7719   |
| Bahamas (Dollar)           |  | 0.7131   |
| Canada (Dollar)            |  | 0.7131   |
| Denmark (Krone)            |  | 10.46    |
| France (Euro)              |  | 0.7131   |
| Hong Kong (Dollar)         |  | 7.7999   |
| Hungary (Forint)           |  | 103.69   |
| Iceland (Krona)            |  | 105.45   |
| Ireland (Euro)             |  | 0.7131   |
| Israel (Shekel)            |  | 10.46    |
| Japan (Yen)                |  | 109.40   |
| Kuwait (Dinar)             |  | 0.7131   |
| Norway (Krone)             |  | 0.7131   |
| Saudi Arabia (Riyal)       |  | 2.58     |
| Singapore (Dollar)         |  | 1.3134   |
| South Korea (Won)          |  | 1,006.50 |
| Switzerland (Franc)        |  | 0.7131   |
| Thailand (Baht)            |  | 34.49    |
| Taiwan (New Dollar)        |  | 20.95    |

(Military exchange rates are those given to customers by the U.S. military in facilities in the country of residence of the service member. Rates for the Netherlands and the United Kingdom are based on the London market. The U.S. military's exchange rates in Germany are based on the local bank's exchange facility. Commercial rates are inter-bank rates provided for reference when buying currency. All figures are rounded to the nearest cent, except for the dollar-to-pound, which is represented in dollars-to-pounds, and the euro, which is represented in cents-to-euro.)

## PRECIOUS METALS

| London close |  | \$434.10   |
|--------------|--|------------|
| Gold         |  | \$434.10   |
| Silver       |  | \$17.20    |
| Palladium    |  | \$1,000.00 |
| Platinum     |  | \$1,000.00 |
| Rhodium      |  | \$1,000.00 |
| Rosetta      |  | \$1,000.00 |
| Silver       |  | \$17.20    |
| Gold         |  | \$434.10   |
| Palladium    |  | \$1,000.00 |
| Platinum     |  | \$1,000.00 |
| Rhodium      |  | \$1,000.00 |
| Rosetta      |  | \$1,000.00 |

## INTEREST RATES

|  |      |
|--|------|
| Prime rate .....                               | 5.50 |
| Discount rate .....                            | 3.50 |
| Federal funds market rate .....                | 2.50 |
| 3-month bill .....                             | 2.69 |
| 30-year bond .....                             | 4.67 |
| Sources: The Associated Press, Bank of America |      |

## Gifts and Sensibility

## Best time to use gift cards

MarketWatch

**NEW YORK** — Americans spent an estimated \$20 billion on gift cards during the 2004 holiday season, reports the International Council of Shopping Centers.

Most people begin redeeming their gift cards soon after the holidays, but many wait until that ideal purchase comes along. If you still got holiday gift cards, now's the time to use them — before the assorted dead-end fees kick in.

Did you know that a \$50 gift card might no longer be at full value, even though you haven't spent a dime? Here are some of the little-known, yet common gift-card pitfalls:

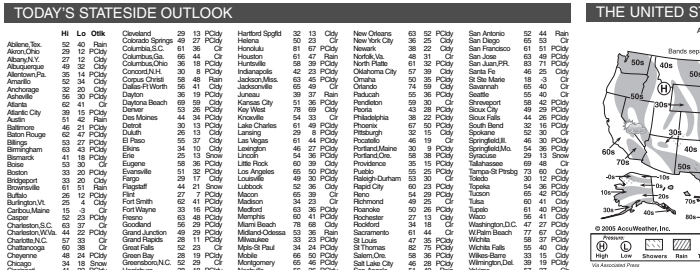
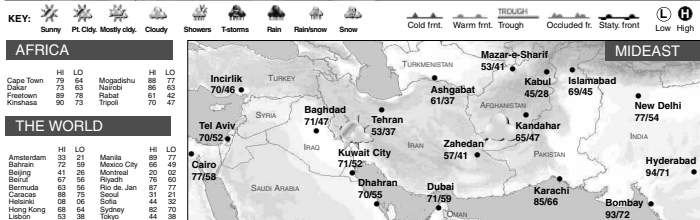
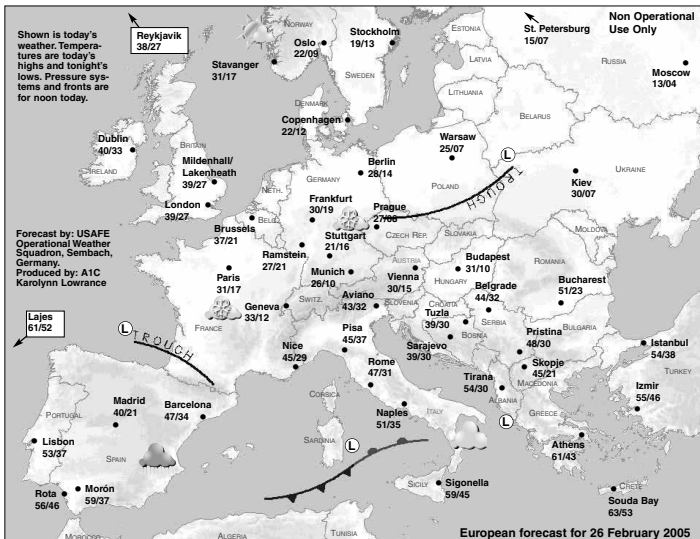
■ **Balance/maintenance fees:** A small percentage of your remaining balance will be deducted every month after the card

isn't used within a set period of time. Expiration dates. Some are as short as a year.

■ **Dormancy fees:** These kick in if the card isn't used within a set period of time — usually between six months and a year. The fee can be as high as \$2 per month.

■ **Limits on cash back:** If you redeem your gift certificate for merchandise valued at less than the gift certificate's value, you may get cash back for the remainder. Other gift cards don't offer cash back, even if the remainder is a few pennies.

If you're not sure what restrictions are on your gift card, there are two ways to check. Many gift cards include rules and restrictions in fine print either on the card or its packaging. Or you might call or visit the store and ask a company representative for the details.



# EUROPEAN FORECAST

**Benelux:** Mostly cloudy. Highs in the 30s. Sunday lows in the upper teens to lower 20s.

**Britain, Ireland:** Mostly cloudy with isolated snow showers in the north. Highs in the upper 30s to lower 40s. Sunday lows in the upper 20s to lower 30s.

**Croatia and Bosnia:** Cloudy with rain/snow showers. Highs in the upper 30s. Sunday lows in the lower 30s.

**France:** Mostly cloudy with snow showers. In the north, highs in the lower 30s with Sunday lows in the upper teens. In the south, highs in the mid 40s with Sunday lows in the upper 20s.

**Northern Germany:** Cloudy with snow. Highs in the upper 20s to lower 30s. Sunday lows in the mid teens to mid 20s.

**Southern Germany:** Cloudy with snow. Highs in the upper 20s. Sunday lows in the lower teens to lower 20s.

**Hungary:** Mostly cloudy with isolated snow showers. Highs in the lower 30s. Sunday lows in the lower teens.

**Northern Italy:** Partly cloudy. Highs in the mid 30s to mid 40s. Sunday lows in the lower 30s.

**Southern Italy:** Cloudy with rain showers. Highs in the upper 40s to upper 50s. Sunday lows in the 30s.

**Kosovo:** Cloudy with rain. Highs in the 40s. Sunday lows in the lower teens.

**Norway:** Partly cloudy. Highs in the lower 20s to lower 30s. Sunday lows in the upper single digits to upper teens.

**Portugal, Spain:** Partly cloudy with isolated rain showers in the north, highs in the 40s with Sunday lows in the lower 20s to lower 30s. In the south, highs in the 50s with Sunday lows in the upper 30s to upper 40s.

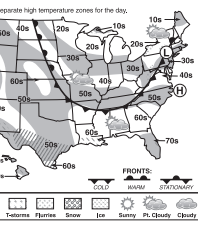
**Turkey:** Partly cloudy to mostly cloudy with isolated rain showers in the north, west and inland, highs in the 50s with Sunday lows in the upper 30s to upper 40s. In the south, highs in the 70s with Sunday lows in the 40s.

For current weather watches, warnings, and 5-day forecasts, visit the USAF Operational Weather Squadron home page at: <http://www.sembach.af.mil>  
<http://www.public.sembach.af.mil>

## SUN & MOON

|                     | Today  | Tomorrow |
|---------------------|--------|----------|
| Sunrise (Baghdad)   | 6:56A  | 6:54A    |
| Sunrise (Frankfurt) | 7:15AM | 7:13AM   |
| Sunset (Baghdad)    | 5:57PM | 5:58PM   |
| Sunset (Frankfurt)  | 6:03PM | 6:05PM   |

Last day of Feb. 26  
 New moon 3 Mar 05  
 First day of Mar. 31 Mar 05  
 Full moon 17 Mar 05



Check our Relocation Guide every Saturday to find Realtors at your new station.

**STARS AND STRIPES.**  
 Your Hometown Newspaper

Scheduled for **ETS** or **PCS**?

## 49 cats, 1 trailer

**ME** LAGRANGE — Two residents of a trailer from which Humane Society agents removed 49 sick cats have been charged with cruelty to animals.

Mary Delgizzi, 44, and Robert Venti, 54, are to appear March 1 in Lincoln District Court on the charge, a Class D offense punishable by up to 364 days in jail and a fine of up to \$2,000, according to Benbowet County Deputy District Attorney Michael Roberts.

Animal Welfare Program officials last week described the mobile home as "a giant litter box" with layers of feces and cat urine covering the floor and a horrible stench pervading the trailer.

## Toot-went prompts suit

**FL** SANFORD — Call it flatulent footwear.

Customers complained that with every step, their shoes made the sound of someone passing gas.

"They were whoopie cushions for your feet," said Bryan Thomas, an officer with shoe maker Goosebumps Products Inc.

The Orlando-area company sued a supplier, accusing it of delivering the wrong chemical for an insole gel, giving the shoes an unwanted sound effect.

"It's very nearly put us out of business," Thomas said.

The suit claims Bell Chem Corp. of Longwood delivered a low-grade glycerin that was watered down in late 2002 and early 2003. That caused air bubbles to form inside the insoles, it said.

## Location mixup

**NM** CHACO CULTURE NATIONAL HISTORIC PARK — This natural wonderland made it onto a list of 10 favorite hidden parks — but the list hid it even more, by locating it in Arizona.

The Coalition of National Park Service Retirees released a list of members' favorite parks, but accidentally listed the archaeological site in Arizona instead of Chaco Canyon.

The 400-member group discovered the mistake and fixed it, said coalition coordinator Bill Wade.

"That mistake slipped through several reviewers, but really, we know it's in New Mexico," Wade said.

## Man guilty of child porn

**MD** BALTIMORE — A man pictured molesting a young boy in an image distributed over the Internet pleaded guilty to sexually exploiting the boy for the purpose of producing child pornography.

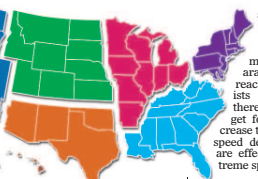
Thomas R. Evered, 39, a truck driver from Lolo, Mont., faces a maximum sentence of 30 years in federal prison and a \$250,000 fine, according to the U.S. attorney's office. He faces a minimum sentence of 15 years.

According to court papers, an FBI agent in Miami downloaded a file in 2003 from the Internet that showed a man and a boy engaged in sexually explicit conduct.

## Butt burns back

**CA** SAN FRANCISCO — No ifs, ands or butts about it, Jonathan Fish learned an expensive lesson about the dangers of littering.

The 20-year-old was cruising



## AMERICAN ROUNDUP

across the upper deck of the Bay Bridge smoking a cigarette. He rolled down the window of his white 2004 Ford Expedition SUV and tossed out the butt, authorities said.

Instead of bounding along the pavement, however, the still-lit cigarette blew back in and set the interior of Fish's \$30,000 SUV ablaze, he told police.

Fish pulled over to the far left-hand lane and leaped from the Expedition. Fish had his hair singed but was otherwise unharmed.

## Super speeders targeted

**ME** AUGUSTA — Law enforcement officials are looking at ways to get extreme speeders to slow down on Maine roads.

Last year, police wrote 1,662 tickets to motorists for speeding 30 mph or more over the posted speed limit, according to the Maine Judicial Information System. That's a 23 percent increase over the number of tickets issued in 2001 for going 30 mph or more over the limit.

It's not unusual for troopers to be stopping motorists going 30, 40 or even 50 miles an hour over the speed limit on Interstate 95, said Col. Craig Poulin, chief of the Maine State Police.

"We have had people stopped going well over 100 miles an hour, and it is becoming more frequent,"



## Mopping up

Anderson College men's tennis assistant coach James Fitzgerald of Anderson, S.C., pushes standing water around one of the courts. Rain soaked the courts, but not enough to keep the team from practicing for a weekend match.

said Col. Craig Poulin, chief of the Maine State Police.

Public Safety Commissioner Michael Capra called the speeds reached by some motorists "obscene." He said there is money in the budget for state police to increase the number of aircraft speed details, which he said are effective in catching extreme speeders.

## Cockfight ban nixed

**NM** SANTA FE — A state Senate committee rejected a proposal to ban cockfighting, making it unlikely the sport will be outlawed this year in one of only two states where it is still legal.

The Conservation Committee voted 6-2 to table the proposal after nearly three hours of impassioned testimony.

One committee member called the proposed ban a "ridiculous" waste of legislative time. "This is what you call a rural vs. urban issue," Sen. Phil Griego said.

The state House approved a ban in 2003, and a similar bill is pending there this year, but even if it passed the House, it would still run into trouble in the Senate.

Louisiana is the only other state where cockfighting is legal.

## Alcohol in the park

**HI** HONOLULU — The City Council is considering a bill that would allow now-prohibited alcohol sales in three city parks. The proposal would give private contractors the ability to sell alcohol in exchange for assuming maintenance and security costs at the Central Oahu Regional Park, Waipio Soccer Complex and Hana L'O-ran Park.

## Sharp nose seeks home

**PA** LANSFORD — A drug-sniffing German shepherd named Ajax needs a new home, after his human partner pleaded guilty to civil rights violations in a drug-planting scheme.

Lansford borough made the difficult decision to sell the dog because it would be too expensive to train another police officer about what commands to use and when to use them, Lansford council President Robert Gaughan said.

"To retrain another officer, we're looking at \$3,000 to \$6,000 till everything is all said and done," Gaughan said.

Ajax, bred and trained in Germany, cost \$21,000. He was donated to the borough in 2002 but Gaughan said the borough has not used him often.

## KKK auction causes stir

**MI** HOWELL — A businessman who drew criticism from community and civil rights leaders for holding an auction of Ku Klux Klan items plans to hold another auction of similar materials, including a Klan robe.

Gary Gray of the Ole Gray Nash Auction House told WHMI-AM/ FM that he will auction off nearly a dozen Klan-related items April 9. Gray, 51, said publicity surrounding the first auction prompted many calls from people who had Klan-related items to sell.

The NAACP branch in neighboring Oakland County and other civil rights groups have blasted the auction as insensitive. Community and business groups also have said the auctions do nothing to fix Howell's racist reputation.



## Sweet taste

A honeybee searches for nectar in a crocus in Bridgewater, Va.



## Dog rescue

A Cambridge, Ohio, firefighter rescues one of two dogs from a burning home in Cambridge.



## Recess flashback

Jonathan Osterbrock, a University of Colorado senior, right, watches his pass to Sam Huntington, a junior, left, in front of referee P.J. Petersen, a senior, during a game of four square near the Dalton Trumbo Fountain at the University Memorial Center in Boulder, Colo.



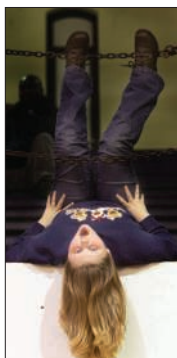
## Creative covering

Tom Kurimski uses a little creativity to keep himself dry as he walks along Valley Drive in Las Cruces, N.M., by putting on bubble wrap.



## Too big for his tractor

Miami East High School sophomore Ryan Rice peddles through an obstacle course at Miami East High School in Casstown, Ohio, as students celebrate Future Farmers of America Week.



## Head over heels

Ten-year-old Erin Haley of Bowling Green, Ky., finds a unique way to watch a basketball game between Warren Central High School and Allen County-Scottsville High School in Scottsville, Ky.



## Flying through flurries

As snow falls, a flock of Canada geese comes in for a landing at Veteran's Park in Woodbridge, Va.

## Smoking mom spared jail

**VA** BOWLING GREEN — A woman forbidden by a judge from smoking around her two children admitted she violated the order but was spared a 10-day jail sentence.

Tamara Silvius was held in contempt of the order by a juvenile and domestic relations judge in August but appealed the sentence to Caroline Circuit Court. The no-smoking order was part of a shared child custody agreement. Tuesday, Circuit Judge Horace A. Revercomb III suspended the jail term as part of a plea deal between the prosecutor and Silvius' attorney.

Silvius shares custody of her children, ages 8 and 10, with her ex-husband. As a condition of visitation rights, a judge barred her from smoking cigarettes or drinking alcohol around her children.

## Tiny fish get big pond

**NM** ALBUQUERQUE — The city of Albuquerque and environmental groups reached a settlement in a five-year legal battle over the endangered Rio Grande silvery minnow.

Organizations including the Sierra Club and National Audubon Society agreed to pursue no further legal action against the city in exchange for measures they said will help the tiny fish species to survive.

The minnow's primary habitat is the Rio Grande south of Albuquerque, a stretch of the river that sometimes runs dry because of drought and the need to provide water under interstate contracts.

Under the settlement, Albuquerque will set aside 30,000 acre-feet of water in a city reservoir to help preserve the minnow.

## Focus on infections

**MD** ANNAPOLIS — Michael Bennett says his father suffered terribly before he died from fighting six kinds of hospital infections, and he doesn't want others to suffer the same way.

"He did not deserve this torture," said Bennett of his father, who entered a Baltimore-area hospital with pneumonia and died four months later after contracting the infections, including a flesh-eating bacteria that took his left leg. He was checked into five Baltimore-area hospitals before he died.

"He was betrayed by the people he trusted most — the doctors and the hospitals."

So Bennett is pushing for a state law that would require hospitals to publish reports on their infection rates. The nonprofit Consumers Union is promoting a campaign to push such legislation nationwide. The group argues hospitals will be motivated to improve their infection rates if they are required to publish reports.

## Man guilty of tiger abuse

**CA** RIVERSIDE — A self-proclaimed animal rescuer was convicted of animal cruelty after investigators raided his compound and found dead tiger cubs stored in a freezer and dozens of tiger carcasses strewn about the property.

John Weinbart, 62, was found guilty on 56 of 61 charges, including animal cruelty and child endangerment. He could face more than

14 years in prison when he is sentenced March 22.

Investigators allegedly found 11 newborn tiger and leopard cubs lying in an attic space, 58 frozen tiger cub carcasses and the rotting or mummified carcasses of at least 30 exotic cats scattered around the property.

Investigators also found Weinbart's 8-year-old son in the trash and feces-strewn home.

## TV coming to rail service

**GA** ATLANTA — The Metropolitan Atlanta Rapid Transit Authority says it will be the first subway system in North America to have its rail cars equipped with televisions.

By spring, 115 MARTA cars will each have five 15-inch televisions aboard for passengers to watch while traveling. Each television will be tuned to news programming from Atlanta's ABC affiliate, WSB-TV.

MARTA will get a cut of the revenue from the advertising on the televisions and the on-train music channels.

## Big trouble for Big Dig

**MA** BOSTON — Hundreds of tie leaks in the Big Dig tunnel could increase the project's \$14.6 billion price tag, according to the U.S. Department of Transportation inspector general.

In the Feb. 16 memo, obtained by the Boston Globe, Inspector General Kenneth M. Mead said he would not authorize release of \$81 million in federal funds for the Big Dig until he receives an accounting of how many leaks there are and how much it will cost to repair them.

The memo indicates that three months after the revelations about the tunnel leaks, the top federal overseer of the project remains unconvinced that the problem is under control.

## Manure fire finally out

**NE** MILFORD — It took nearly four months, but to the relief of neighbors for miles around, a burning manure pile has been extinguished.

David Dickinson, owner and manager of Midwest Feeding Co., said that several weeks of pulling the 2,000-ton pile apart proved effective by late last week.

"We got far enough through it that it quit," Dickinson said.

## Naked joke not funny

**FL** KEY WEST — A prosecutor who may have had a little too much to drink thought it would be funny to run naked across a parking lot and hop into a friend's car.

It was funny, until he jumped into the wrong car.

Albert Tasker, who works for the Monroe County State Attorney's Office, apparently got in the back seat of a car occupied by a woman waiting for her boyfriend.

The woman screamed and her boyfriend appeared.

After the woman called 911, a Key West police officer found the naked Tasker in the middle of the parking lot.

Tasker, 28, was arrested facing charges of disorderly intoxication and indecent exposure.

Stories and photos from The Associated Press

## AFRTS Television Schedule

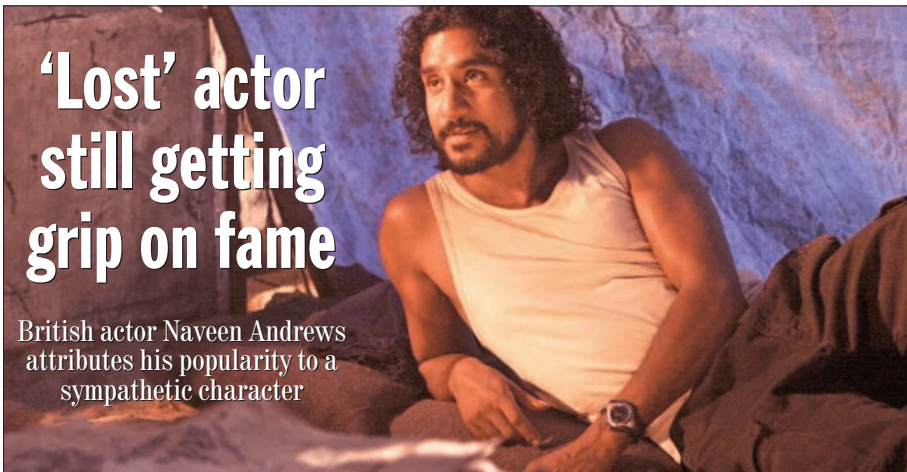
Updated sports listings are available on the first Scoreboard page in the sports section or AFN's Web site at <http://myafn.dodmedia.osd.mil>

[illegible]

## FACES

# 'Lost' actor still getting grip on fame

British actor Naveen Andrews attributes his popularity to a sympathetic character



Courtesy of ABC

While filming the TV show "Lost" in Hawaii, Naveen Andrews hasn't had time to digest his success. But he realizes his character's Iraqi background has made it an interesting role.

BY NANCY MILLS  
New York Daily News

On "Lost," the new ABC-TV survivor drama, we know Naveen Andrews' Sayid as a rough-hewn former member of the Iraqi Republican Guard, an electronics expert who fought in the Gulf War. He has been trapped, kidnapped, chased and accused of being a terrorist and a hero. Not a Bollywood song-and-dance man.

But in "Bride & Prejudice," a musical version of Jane Austen's classic novel opening Friday, Andrews plays Balraj Bingley, the good friend of Mr. Darcy, the story's romantic hero.

Instead of early 19th-century England, the setting is modern India. And in place of a formal ball, the actors participate in what Andrews describes as "a strange amalgamation of traditional Indian dance crossed with MC Hammer."

Andrews has more in common with Bingley than Sayid. His parents moved to England in the mid-'60s, when "there was an open-door policy," he says. "All people in the British former colonies could come and work on the buses or clean toilets."

## Campbell's close encounter with cocaine

Naomi Campbell says she nearly self-destructed from her use of cocaine. Campbell told Diane Sawyer on ABC's "Primetime Live," which aired Thursday in the States, that she's glad she recovered, but acknowledges that it's still difficult.

"It was a rebellion in a certain way. You know?" the British supermodel says. "I don't want to be in that pain again. I don't want to be in that place."

Campbell, 34, says she first tried cocaine when she was 24 but stopped before "something would have happened. Some self-destructive thing."

"I never did drugs before I would go on the runway because I knew that's when I was an active addict. I knew that they could see my eyes," she says.

Campbell says she assumes others knew of her addiction at the time. "People aren't stupid. ... You think people don't know, but they know. They know. I mean, that's your mind playing tricks on you."

In 2004, Campbell won her appeal in a privacy case against a London newspaper that published photographs



Campbell

He was born in London in 1969 and speaks with an English accent, but, he says, "only when I came to America did I think of myself as British."

"I was always in trouble from an early age. I had a fraught relationship with my parents, who were very traditional. Doing plays at school was a joyous release."

At 16, Andrews fell in love with his math teacher, moved in with her and had a son.

Although he got a scholarship to London's Guildhall School of Music and Drama — Ewan McGregor was a classmate — Andrews never expected to be successful. "There were no Indian actors from England of note earning money or having a career," he says.

A key role as the Sikh mine-hunter Kip in the 1996 Oscar-winning "The English Patient" kick-started his career. But his life really changed in 1998 when he fell in love with actress Barbara Hershey while filming "Drowning on Dry Land." He moved to Los Angeles to be with Hershey, 21 years his senior, and they are still together.

Because "Lost" has been filming in Hawaii for the past five months, Andrews hasn't digested his newfound fame. But he is aware that Sayid's backstory — that he helped his childhood sweetheart escape from an Iraqi prison — has turned him into a sympathetic character.

of her leaving a drug counseling meeting in 2001.

## Stern awarded by Wired Magazine

Howard Stern, the acerbic self-described "King of All Media," has received Wired Magazine's Wired Renegade award for his tense battle with the FCC and upcoming switch to Sirius Satellite Radio.

Other recipients of the sixth annual Rave Awards, presented Tuesday, include Brad Bird, who won in the Film Director category for "The Incredibles," the computer-animated story of a family of superheroes.

"I'm very excited to be included in this group of people," said Bird, who dismissed the notion that the popularity of computer-generated blockbuster films might nudge real-life actors

out of the business.

He called such concerns those of "backward-thinking actors."

"I think some actors are taking it that way, but I don't think it's a legitimate concern," Bird said.

Kevin Sites, a freelance journalist, took home the first Blogger award, for helping pioneer a new breed of report-



Stern

"I've been very heartened by ordinary people's responses to Sayid," he says. "In Hollywood, Middle Eastern characters are usually insubstantial. What drew me to Sayid is his technical knowledge and his ability to build things. Plus, he's a soldier. He's romantic and heroic. Audiences really like and care about him. I think people in a way are trying to connect with the so-called enemy in a way this government won't allow them to."

Over time, it's possible that the actors' special talents might become part of their characters.

"[Series creator] J.J. Abrams was asking me about my guitar playing," he says. "But it would be totally unbelievable if Sayid suddenly played the blues."

But, says series star Matthew Fox, "he's an amazing musician with incredible vocal subtlety."

"It's funny being around people when they meet him for the first time. They're absolutely stunned he has a British accent."

Andrews says he knows there are no guarantees he'll make it to the end of the season.

"Any of us could die," he says. "They've got this monster wandering around, which, by the way, I haven't seen. It's genius on the part of the producers to keep us all in line."

ing from the war in Iraq. Sites also chronicled the tsunami rescue effort in southeast Asia.

## Benet sings 'sorry' to ex-wife Berry

Eric Benet is singing an apology to ex-wife Halle Berry. Benet said lyrics in his upcoming album include an apology — but she's heard it all before.

"I think somewhere along the way, she's heard everything," he told "Access Hollywood" in an interview.

"Maybe she hasn't heard the songs, but she's heard everything I have to say."

Berry filed for divorce from the R&B singer last April after about three years of marriage. Tabloids speculated about Benet's faithfulness.

"Some of it is truth," but the reports also were full of misconceptions, Benet, 34, told the syndicated entertainment TV show.

"I think the biggest misconception is that there is something wrong with me," he said. "It's like the whole picture that was painted was 'sex addict.'"

Benet also denied being a sex addict last year.

Stories and photos from The Associated Press



Benet

# Horoscope

The mood of this Venus transit into Pisces is best summed up in the words of the David Gray song "Babylon": "Let go your heart/Let go your head/And feel it now." Love is more than an emotion, action or word. It's a state of being that is best left unanalyzed, as something is always lost in the translation. Instead of "doing" love, try "being" love.

**TODAY'S BIRTHDAY (February 26).** The sky is your limit this year. With so many options, your main challenge is to focus your energy in one direction. If you can do that, you're unstoppable. A new work environment is featured in March. Romantic likes and dislikes change, allowing you to find love where you weren't finding it before. Love with a Scorpio or Libra is a thrill.

**ARIES (March 21-April 19).** Declarations of love and other promises are featured. You're skeptical of this but can be swayed if offered a little proof. As the comedian Steven Wright said, "All those who believe in psychokinetics raise my hand."

**TAURUS (April 20-May 20).** Feeling a little dull? Leave a window of opportunity open for the love affair between you and yourself to rekindle. A Gemini or Aries helps find something fabulous and new about you.

**GEMINI (May 21-June 21).** You've got attitude in overdrive. Friends would be jealous if they weren't so grateful to be part of your story. Continue to make it up as you go—it's working for you now.

**CANCER (June 22-July 22).** Energy, vitality and sensuous can be your role as the authority. Snap judgments you make about others will hurt you more than any judgments they could make of you.

**LEO (July 23-Aug. 22).** There's a corner of your world always on the verge of blowing up into a big

drama. Park your lawn chair, metaphorically of course, and watch the volcano action. When you think it's over, it's just beginning.

**VIRGO (Aug. 23-Sept. 22).** You're a fearless dreamer, a provocateur and a rocker of boots. You're not saying things for shock value or doing things to upset the status quo, but you have that effect anyhow.

**LIBRA (Sept. 23-Oct. 23).** An excited buzz centers on you. You're an important part of breaking news. The reaction you get makes you feel like a celebrity—at least a temporary one. Of course, there really is no other kind.

**SCORPIO (Oct. 24-Nov. 21).** Look for breathtaking beauty. It's out there waiting to be found. When you're on a quest, you're so appealing that you'll attract positive attention. It's wonderful to get credit for just being you.

**SAGITTARIUS (Nov. 22-Dec. 21).** A paradox. If there's one thing you're serious about, it's lightning things up. You're good at games—playing them and inventing them. Do be careful when there are hearts hanging in the balance.

**CAPRICORN (Dec. 22-Jan. 19).** New projects get off to a sensational start, but you know better than anyone that finishing is what counts. Be the one who makes sure that everyone else is doing the job they say they'll do. This requires list making.

**AQUARIUS (Jan. 20-Feb. 18).** You're the happy cruise director, pointing your people to the social hot spots, laying out the next fun activity, and making sure a good time is had by all. You're quite successful in this end.

**PISCES (Feb. 19-March 20).** You're not like anyone—and that's clear in the way things go down today. There's no need to feel insecure, and there's really no reason to conform. Sometimes, mounting tension is a positive thing.

Creators Syndicate

## Holiday Mathis



## Calvin and Hobbes



## Jump Start



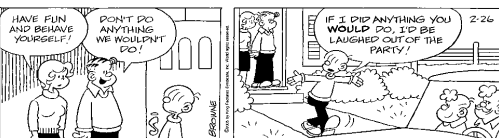
## Zits



## Cathy



## Hi and Lois



## Beetle Bailey



## Red Rover



## Better or Worse



## Peanuts



Fotrot



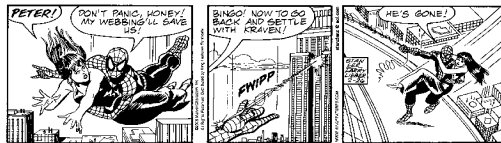
B.C.



Baby Blues



Spider Man



Blondie



Dilbert



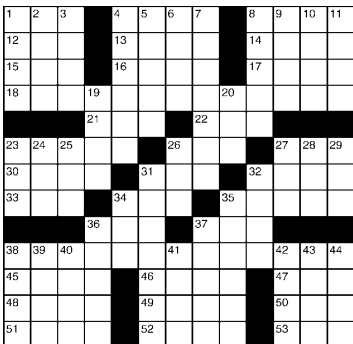
Hagar



Garfield



## Eugene Sheffer Crossword



## Across

- 1 Hot tub
- 4 Got a hole-in-one
- 8 Cantina order
- 12 Anderson's "High —"
- 13 From one end to 'tother
- 14 Sportswear brand
- 15 Guitar's cousin
- 16 Bar
- 17 Miss Gulch's prey
- 18 Sitcom boy
- 21 Doctrine
- 22 — Arbor, Michigan
- 23 Gall
- 26 Work unit
- 27 Turtledove tally
- 30 Emanation
- 31 Craze
- 32 Suitor
- 33 Corral
- 34 Museum stuff
- 35 Friars' tribute
- 36 Ram's ma'am
- 37 Opposed
- 38 Sitcom boy
- 45 Slaughter of baseball
- 46 "Titanic" cast member
- 47 "—Tuck"
- 48 Telegram
- 49 Carolina college
- 50 Blunder
- 51 Charon's course

## Down

- 1 Theatergoer's souvenir
- 2 Jab
- 3 Neighborhood
- 4 Motionless
- 5 Bracelet attachment
- 6 Clapton or Idle
- 7 Unimaginative one
- 8 Tennessee footballer
- 9 Black Sea gulf
- 10 Pigeon coop
- 11 Bloodhound's clue
- 19 Passport endorsement
- 20 Chang's closest kin
- 23 Upper limit
- 24 Be contrite
- 25 Coffee-shop vessel
- 26 Pack away
- 27 Darjeeling, e.g.
- 28 Existed
- 29 Away
- 31 Supermarket fixture
- 32 Dalton portrayal
- 34 Puncturing tool
- 35 Capybara or vole
- 36 English county
- 37 Doctrine
- 38 Basilica benches
- 39 Condominium, e.g.
- 40 Gruesome
- 41 Bulldog's alma mater
- 42 From the beginning
- 43 Actress Sorvino
- 44 Agile

## Answer to Previous Puzzle



2-26

## CRYPTOQUIP

KV DSJ'HF MSBN MS ES  
V KTN ZTN KTMFHQKFR  
Z YFQFT-VSSM EJD, K'N YZD

KM'Y Z MZBB SHNFH!  
Yesterday's Cryptoquip: TO SOME WAGGISH PEOPLE, PRESS CENSORSHIP MIGHT BE DESCRIBED AS WRITER'S CLAMP.

Today's Cryptoquip Clue: H equals R

# Find a good man where good men go

**Dear Abby:** I am a 27-year-old woman who would like to meet and date a man who respects women.

Two years ago, my husband and I were divorced. Since then my dating experiences have been disappointing.

My friends and acquaintances all say that meeting men in a bar is not a good way to find someone with whom I could be happy. I agree, because most of the men I have met in bars never call after the first date. They are unemployed, recently separated, or drop me after a few dates when I won't have sex.

I have contacted local parishes to find out about weekend retreats and charity functions, but dating men I met there didn't bring any better results.

I don't understand why dating is such a problem. I'm blonde, attractive and friendly. I work

and attend college full time. I am ambitious, a voracious reader and can carry on an intelligent conversation.

Most men I've encountered seem happy to live at home with their parents and don't want to start a family of their own.

**Dear Abby**



I'm looking for someone who would take me to dinner and a movie and treat me like a lady. I don't mind staying home watching movies sometimes, but men today apparently want only casual sex — not relationships.

Unlike my girlfriends who are satisfied with bar-hopping every weekend for male companionship, I want to share my life with someone and have a family. I'm not asking for an instant marriage proposal, but I would like a meaningful relationship. Have you any suggestions?

— Discouraged in Pittsburgh

**Dear Discouraged:** At the risk of sounding like a broken record, decent people can be found where decent people gather. Volunteer your services at a library, a hospital, the mental health society, or anywhere that could use a helping hand. Join clubs focused on activities you enjoy such as hiking, reading, golfing, fishing, etc. Take square dance, ballroom, folk or line dance classes. Go to museums, art exhibits and concerts. Join the chamber of commerce and attend its mixers; join a professional club, a gym or the YMCA. Volunteer at a political campaign headquarters. The more people who know you're interested in meeting someone, the greater your chances will be of finding Mr. Right.

Letters for this column — with your name and phone number — should be addressed to Dear Abby, P.O. Box 69440, Los Angeles, CA 90069. Readers can write to Abby on the Internet at <http://www.uxpress.com/dearabby>. Universal Press Syndicate

## JUMBLE

Unscramble these four Jumbles, one letter to each square, to form four ordinary words.

**VEGIN**

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**ROGAC**

**LAI DAH**

**GLERCY**

www.jumble.com

Now arrange the circled letters to form the surprise answer as suggested by the above cartoon.

Print answer here:

(Answers Monday)

Yesterday's Jumbles: TARDY ANKLE SEETHE DEUCE  
Answer: How the steamy soap opera star left the fans — IN A "LATHEE"

# Online proposal not a fairy tale

**Dear Annie:** I've been

dating "Tommy" for a little over a year, and he's just popped "The Question." I've known for months that he was going to propose, because he began talking about kids and our own place and our future. I am in love with this man, and I want to say yes, but here's the problem: We communicate a lot via MSN Messenger, and that's how he asked me. The technological age takes all the romance out of love.

I imagined a dozen other proposal scenarios, none of which involved the Internet. Each one included Tommy down on one knee with a ring.

Now I'm not sure how to respond. I told two of my friends about the proposal. One wanted to tell him off; the other said I'm making too much of it and should respond the way my heart feels.

I don't need some elaborate scheme. I just want a sweet, down-on-one-knee-with-a-ring proposal.

**Annie's Mailbox**



— Bride in Need

**Dear Bride:** Tommy loves you, and you love him. It's time to communicate better. Otherwise you will be disappointed constantly, since he will have no idea what you want.

We think Tommy proposed in this fashion because he wasn't sure he could work up the courage to do it in person. Reply, saying you will give him your answer when you can gaze romantically into his eyes. If you really need him to appear with a ring, you can add, "I can't wait to see the ring," although we're pretty certain he doesn't have one yet. We say, if you want to marry the guy, you should accept the proposal, regardless of how it's made. The rest is just window-dressing.

**Dear Annie:** I read the letter from "Afraid in Florida," the mom who worried about her 15-year-old son, "Mark," who

dresses like a freak.

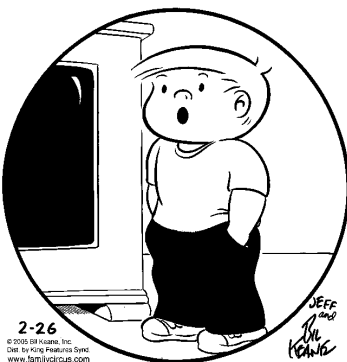
I'm a young woman who constantly receives call-calls of "Hey, it's not Halloween!" and "Where's the funeral?" I commend Mark for having the courage to dress how he chooses.

Even more, I applaud his mother for accepting his choices. However, she shouldn't worry so much about her son being beaten up or not getting a job. From personal experience, I can tell her he probably receives little more than ridiculous comments from people too shallow to focus on the great person he is, and who see only his outward appearance. Since he's lucky enough to have good family support, those little barbs will do nothing but make him stronger.

**The Voice of Experience**  
in Michigan  
Dear Voice: Thanks for your word of encouragement.

Annie's Mailbox is written by Kathy Mitchell and Marcy Sugar, longtime editors of the Ann Landers column. Please e-mail your questions to [anniesmailbox@comcast.net](mailto:anniesmailbox@comcast.net), or write to: Annie's Mailbox, c/o Creators Syndicate, 5777 W. Century Blvd., Suite 700, Los Angeles, CA 90045. Creators Syndicate

## Family Circus



**"I don't feel like watchin' television. Am I sick?"**

## GRAFFITI

A ROSE BY ANY OTHER NAME WOULD BE CHEAPER BY THE DOZEN

Dennis the Menace



"LET'S DO IT, JOEY. BESIDES, WE'VE GOT THE REST OF THE YEAR TO SHOW SANTA HOW GROUP WE ARE."

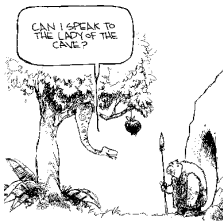
© Gary Larson

The Far Side



Seymour Chwast: Accountant of this World's Frontier

Non Sequitur



"THE THEORY VOTED MOST LIKELY TO TICK OFF EVERYONE..."

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# Michigan State finally beats a ranked foe

The Associated Press

EAST LANSING, Mich. — Paul Davis heaved the basketball toward the scoreboard hanging over the court, his teammates hugged and the fans cheered wildly.

Yes, it was a big victory for Michigan State.

Alan Anderson didn't miss a shot and scored a career-high 28 points to lead the 10th-ranked Spartans to a 77-64 victory over No. 20 Wisconsin on Thursday night, snapping a 12-game losing streak against ranked opponents and a six-game skid against the Badgers.

"A lot of weight just came off our shoulders," said Davis, who had 13 points and 11 rebounds. "I guess we proved some critics wrong."

The Spartans (20-4, 11-2 Big Ten) have won 10 of 11 since losing to the Badgers on Jan. 16, winning their past nine by double digits.

Those lopsided victories didn't quiet many skeptics because of the streak against ranked opponents dating to the regional finals of the 2003 NCAA tournament.

"It's no secret, we needed to get over one hurdle," Michigan State coach Tom Izzo said. "There's a bunch more hurdles to go, but you have to get over the first."

"We had to get over this one to give the weight of the world off their shoulders and to move on."

Anderson made sure the Spartans didn't have to talk about why they failed to win another marquee game.

He was a far-10 from the field and 7-foot-7 from the line, becoming the fourth Michigan State player to take at least 10 shots without missing. The senior forward surpassed his previous career high of 18 points early in the second half.

"He did a great job of penetrating and taking care of his business around the basket," Wisconsin coach Bo Ryan said. "You name it, he did it."

Anderson matched a field-goal percentage mark at Michigan State.

Ron Charles made all 12 of his shots in a game in 1980, while Carlton Valentine (1986) and Bob Chapman (1977) both went 11-for-11.

"I don't think I missed a shot in warmups," Anderson said. "I said, 'Man, this feels good.'"

Alando Tucker scored 18 points and Mike Wilkinson had 16 for the Badgers (17-7, 8-5), who have lost three of five, allowing Indiana to pull into a third-place tie in the Big Ten standings.

"We don't like to say it happens at Wisconsin, but they outworked us," Tucker said.

The Spartans beat Wisconsin for the first time since Feb. 27, 2001 — thanks to Anderson.

He scored 11 straight points for Michigan State early in the first half, giving the Spartans an 11-point lead, which they maintained easily.

Michigan State led by as much as 14 before halftime and didn't let the Badgers get closer than

## Men's Top 25 Roundup

eight after Anderson's scoring barrage. Anderson scored 15 points in the first half to help Michigan State take a 33-25 lead.

It didn't take long for the Spartans to earn a comfortable lead again. Offensive rebounds led to seven of their first eight points in the second half, giving them a 41-27 lead with 17:55 left.

Wisconsin didn't pull within single digits again until there was just over a minute left.

**No. 9 Arizona 57, Washington State 56 (OT):** At Pullman, Wash., Ivan Radenovic made two free throws with 9 seconds left to help Arizona avoid being swept by Washington State.

Derrick Long's three-point shot for Washington State rimmed out in the closing seconds and Radenovic rebounded for the Wildcats (24-4, 14-2 Pac-10), who beat the Cougars for the 17th straight time at Pullman.

Channing Frye scored 26 points for Arizona, which has won seven in a row.

The victory gave Arizona coach Lute Olson 304 wins in the Pac-10, tied with legendary UCLA coach John Wooden for most wins in the league.

Thomas Kelati led the Cougars (10-14, 5-10) with 16 points.

**No. 12 Gonzaga 64, Portland 68:** At Portland, Ore., Tommy Turiaf had 14 points and 11 rebounds and Gonzaga clinched the West Coast Conference title for the first straight season.

Adam Morrison added 22 points for Gonzaga (22-4, 12-3), which has won nine straight. It is the ninth time since 1994 that the Bulldogs have won the regular-season conference championship.

Darren Cooper had 20 points for the Pilots (15-14, 4-10).

**No. 14 Washington 90, Arizona State 82:** At Seattle, Tre Simmons tied a career high with 29 points, including 12 during a four-minute span in the second half, and Washington held off pesky Arizona State.

Washington (22-4, 12-3 Pac-10) kept pace with Arizona in the Pac-10. The Huskies are 15 games behind the Wildcats and host Arizona on Saturday.

Diego, leading the Pac-10 in scoring and rebounding, had a game-high 31 points and 15 rebounds for Arizona State (18-10, 7-9).

**No. 24 Cincinnati 80, Marquette 68:** At Cincinnati, Eric Hicks scored 17 points and the Bearcats beat Marquette, which was playing its first game without leading scorer Travis Diener.

Nick Williams added 16 points, and Jason Maxiell had 14 points for Cincinnati (21-6, 9-4 Conference USA).

Marquette (18-9, 6-8) had trouble finding shots without Diener, who broke his hand Tuesday during practice. He had surgery and will miss the rest of his senior season.

Steve Novak led Marquette with 25 points.



# Red Sox ace Schilling throws off mound

The Associated Press

Curt Schilling wasn't too happy after throwing off a mound for the first time since winning Game 2 of the World Series.

The Los Angeles Dodgers are hoping closer Eric Gagne will be able to pitch again soon after he sprained a ligament in his left knee during the team's first full-squad workout of spring training.

Schilling, who had ankle surgery 16 days after he beat St. Louis in the World Series, threw 47 pitches during a 16-minute workout at Fort Myers, Fla.

"This was a day when I didn't feel as good as I wanted to feel," Schilling said. "My ankle didn't hurt, so I guess that's a positive for people other than me."

Pitching Opening Day against the New York Yankees on April 3 probably against former Arizona teammate Randy Johnson — remains a possibility, and Schilling's competitive nature is driving him toward that. But he wants to make sure he's healthy at a much more important time.

"I think he looked terrific," Boston manager Terry Francona said. "He wants to be dotting every corner right now and throwing splits, and that's just not going to happen."

Schilling's 21-6 record and 3.26 ERA in his first season with Boston boosted the Red Sox into the playoffs, where his bloody sock became the symbol of his determination to whatever he could to help them win the World Series for the first time in 86 years.

He had one of the worst outings of his career in the first game of the AL championship series, allowing six runs in three innings of



Boston Red Sox pitcher Curt Schilling throws off the mound for the first time since Game 2 of the World Series during workouts on Thursday in Fort Myers, Fla. Schilling is hoping to pitch on Opening Day.

a 10-7 loss to the Yankees. Before his next start, a tendon that had been slipping out of place was stitched to his skin.

With blood seeping through the sutures, Schilling allowed one run in seven innings during Boston's 4-2 win. The procedure was repeated before his next and last start, when he allowed no earned runs in six innings of a 6-2 victory.

In Vero Beach, Fla., Gagne didn't seem particularly concerned about his injury, but train-

er Stan Johnston said the 29-year-old right-hander probably will have his activity limited for about a week. Johnston said the injury needs about six weeks to fully heal.

"I turned around and a cleat got stuck," said Gagne, who will undergo an MRI exam. "I just twisted my knee a little bit. I'm not concerned. There's no swelling, and that's a really good sign. I don't want to start aggravating anything. It's early in camp."

Infielder Norihiro Nakamura,

signed to a minor league contract, was not in camp because of visa problems. Dodgers manager Jim Tracy said he had no idea when Nakamura, a 31-year-old veteran of 13 seasons with the Osaka Kintetsu Buffaloes in Japan's Pacific League, would report.

In Fort Lauderdale, Fla., Baltimore's Rafael Palmeiro is leaving the possibility of filing a lawsuit against Jose Canseco, who said he introduced the first baseman to steroids in 1992 when both players were with the Texas

Rangers.

Canseco cited Palmeiro as a steroid user in his new book. In an interview on the CBS television show "60 Minutes," Canseco said he injected the drug into Palmeiro.

Palmeiro issued a statement last month in which he denied ever using steroids, and he emphatically backed up that assertion Thursday after his first practice of spring training. Palmeiro also said he's considered hiring the law firm of Orioles owner Peter Angelos to take legal action against Canseco.

"The one thing I can say is I have the best law firm and the best lawyer standing in the wings in Peter Angelos," he said. "I have options available for me. He stands behind me and he's ready. I will look at all my options and I'll decide."

In Mesa, Ariz., Chicago Cubs manager Dusty Baker said one of his players were disputing some comments Sammy Sosa made when he reported to the Baltimore Orioles' camp.

At a news conference Wednesday, Sosa was asked about comments by Cubs players who said he and the team were better off following the Feb. 2 trade. Sosa apparently interpreted that as the Cubs saying they didn't need him anymore.

"They lie," Sosa was quoted as saying in several newspapers.

The Cubs insisted Thursday that's not what they said or meant.

"Did I say that?" asked Cubs pitcher Kerry Wood. "I never did say it, so apparently somebody else lies. Not him. I'm not talking about him. I never said we were better without Sammy. I said I think both teams got better in the offseason not because we got rid of Sammy but because of some other moves we made."

## Congressman wants Canseco, McGwire to testify

The Associated Press

WASHINGTON — A senior House Democrat urged Thursday that Jose Canseco and others the former baseball slugger accused of abusing steroids, including Mark McGwire, be called before Congress to testify on use of performance-enhancing drugs.

Rep. Henry Waxman of California, the top Democrat on the House Government Reform Committee, said representatives from Major League Baseball and the players' association also should appear before the panel to explain how they plan to stop the use of dangerous drugs by baseball players.

Waxman made his request for hearings to the chairman of the committee, Rep. Tom Davis, R-Va. There was no immediate response from Davis' office.

In Canseco's book, "Juiced: Wild Times, Rampant 'Roids, Smash Hits & How Baseball Got Big," he admits using steroids and alleges that McGwire often injected the drugs with him. He said he introduced steroids to former Texas Rangers teammates Rafael Palmeiro, Juan Gonzalez and Ivan Rodriguez. All have publicly denied Canseco's charges.

"Mr. Canseco insists his information is accurate," but Major League Baseball says



it will not investigate the allegations, Waxman said. Hearings with Canseco, McGwire and others "would be an opportunity to find out what really happened and to get to the bottom of this growing scandal."

Major League Baseball and the players union in January agreed to a tougher steroid-testing program that will suspend first-time offenders for 10 days and randomly test players year-round. Players and owners hope to finalize their new agreement by Tuesday, the mandatory reporting date for spring training.

Sen. John McCain, R-Ariz., who had threatened baseball with legislation, praised the agreement as a "significant breakthrough" but said he would have preferred tougher penalties and the inclusion of amphetamines on the list of banned items.

The commissioner's office and the union had no immediate comment.

### Players agree to international drug-testing rules for World Cup

Baseball players signed an agreement calling for international drug-testing rules

during a World Cup tournament next year.

The deal, signed by the union, the commissioner's office and the International Baseball Federation on Feb. 16, states that IBAF rules will cover the frequency of testing before and during the tournament, the list of prohibited substances, the procedures for taking samples and the laboratories used.

"This agreement reflects with integrity the IBAF rules approved by the World Anti-Doping Agency," the IBAF said in a statement.

Each team will select a provisional roster of 60 players 45 days before the start of the tournament, and players will be covered by the drug-testing rules until the end of the competition.

More substances are banned by the IBAF than in major league baseball. Gene Orza, the union's chief executive officer, wouldn't discuss details of the deal.

"Obviously, we will brief in detail the players who elect to play in the games on the specifics of the agreement," Orza said in an e-mail Tuesday.

The sides agreed to the deal last April 26 and had been putting it in writing.

Lawyers for players and owners currently are revising their own drug-testing agreement, which will include more fre-

quent tests for steroids and, for the first time, suspensions for first-time offenders and offseason testing. They hope that deal will be in place by the mandatory reporting date for spring training, March 1.

Owners and players also agreed to launch a 16-team World Cup tournament during spring training next year.

### Devil Rays' Cordova retires

ST. PETERSBURG, Fla. — Former American League Rookie of the Year Marty Cordova retired Thursday, a day after he was scheduled to report to spring training with the Tampa Bay Devil Rays.

In 10 seasons with Minnesota, Toronto, Cleveland and Baltimore, the oft-injured outfielder batted .274 with 122 home runs and 540 RBIs. He missed all of 2004 and appeared in just nine games two years ago after two operations on his right elbow.

"He's been bothered by back injuries over the last several seasons, and it has gotten to the point where he felt the best decision was to retire," Devil Rays general manager Chuck LaMar said.

The 34-year-old was Rookie of the Year in 1995, hitting .277 with 24 homers and 84 RBIs with Minnesota. He signed a minor league contract with the Devil Rays on Jan. 12.



MICHAEL ABRAMS/Stars and Stripes

The Alconbury Lady Dragons celebrate their 35-34 victory over Brussels in Mannheim, Germany on Friday.

## Alconbury edges Brussels to win inaugural Div. IV title

BY BEN MURRAY

Stars and Stripes

MANNHEIM, Germany — The first name on the trophy for the European Division IV girls basketball championships will be the Alconbury Lady Dragons.

Alconbury fought off Brussels Friday at the Benjamin Franklin Sports Arena 35-34 to win the new division's title.

The taller, more experienced Lady Dragons and the Lady Brigands traded the lead several times. But in the fourth quarter, Alconbury was steady at the free-throw line and passed around the Brigands' press to hold onto a slim lead.

"It's beautiful," said Alconbury forward Kiesha Hunt, who had 10 points Friday.

"Last season we were seeded dead last, and this year we're No. 1."

Alconbury, which had beaten Brussels twice this season, used its height advantage repeatedly to score from close range and stuck to its full-court pressure to wear down Brussels. Alconbury coach Tom Stafford said.

Center Kim Woideck was strong in the paint, where she made three shots from the field and controlled the boards against the shorter Lady Brigands.

Trailing 27-23 after three quarters, Alconbury stayed calm in the final eight minutes as guards Carly Bascom and Christina Arredondo repeatedly sliced through the Brussels press to help the Lady Dragons regain the lead.

With 1:30 to play, Brussels had trouble fouling the Alconbury guards to regain the ball, and a last-second jumper by Caitlin Quinn wasn't enough.

Though "we didn't expect to make it this far," Quinn said after the game, "a loss by one is worse



MICHAEL ABRAMS/Stars and Stripes

Claris Bottesini, right, of Brussels drives against Alconbury's Nikita Webb during Friday's Division IV title game in Mannheim.

than a loss by a lot."

The game started with both teams pressing, which resulted in plenty of turnovers and not much scoring as each team appeared jittery.

Alconbury extended its 16-15 halftime lead to five points at the start of the second half with a series of free throws before Brus-

sels battled back. Forwards Claris Bottesini and Whitney Hennes found room under the basket to cut into the lead, then sophomore forward Katie Weatherbie hit three shots from the field to put the Lady Brigands ahead by four at the end of the third quarter.

E-mail Ben Murray at: [murrayb@mail.stripes.osd.mil](mailto:murrayb@mail.stripes.osd.mil)

## Brussels boys rout Iceland, take D-IV crown

BY RUSTY BRYAN

Stars and Stripes

MANNHEIM, Germany — Brussels brought 12 players to the European Division IV boys basketball tournament, but it needs to engrave just five names on the championship trophy it won Friday evening.

"Coach [Chris Vahrenhorst] wanted the starting five to play the whole game," said Brussels assistant Crawford Burns after Brussels thumped Iceland 58-29 for the D-IV title.

"He told the team that everyone would go out for the introductions, but that these five earned the right to play the whole game. They were the team that started the year together and he wanted them to finish the season together."

And Brussels' Big Five — seniors Matt Arens, Mike Moysowicz, Jacob Williamson, junior Logan Quinn and sophomore Ryan Proietto — ended their season in style.

Led by Arens (21 points and 16 rebounds), Proietto (14 points) and tourney MVP Quinn (10 points), Brussels opened the game with a 25-8 run while Iceland's shooters made just six of 25 shots from the floor in the first half.

Even with the game well in hand, Brussels' starters worked well for the entire game, finding the open man and controlling the glass. Brussels' sixth-man, Brandon Pierce, didn't enter the game until the fourth quarter, the only Brigand non-starter to get on the floor.

Anthony Short, selected to the all-tourney team along with teammate Brent Bautista, led Iceland with 10 points.

Even after 32 minutes without a breather, the Brigands, who placed second to London Central during the regular season in Division III-North, were happy to accept the trophy awarded to the first boys champions of Europe's smallest schools. Division IV, which came into existence this year, is contested only in the Europeans.

"There are still some really good teams in Division IV," Williamson said.

The Division II and III boys and girls title games are scheduled for 1, 3, 5 and 7 p.m. Saturday at the Benjamin Franklin Village Sports Arena here. Admission to all four games is \$5 for adults and \$3 for students.

E-mail Rusty Bryan at: [bryanr@mail.stripes.osd.mil](mailto:bryanr@mail.stripes.osd.mil)



MICHAEL ABRAMS/Stars and Stripes

Mike Moysowicz of Brussels, right, tries to work around Iceland's Anjo Castro during the Brigands' 58-29 victory on Friday.

## High school scoreboard

### European championships

MANHEIM, Germany — Late results Thursday and early results Friday from the European Divisions I, II, III and IV high school basketball tournaments which end Saturday:

#### Boys

##### Thursday's late results

**Seminifinals**  
Würzburg 45, Wiesbaden 41  
Ramstein 66, Kaiserslautern 58 (OT)  
**Division II**  
Alanya 16, Black Forest Academy 31  
Bilburg 73, Afnorth 47  
Alanya 16, Black Forest Academy 31  
**Division III**  
Signonella 52, Baumholder 29  
Rota 39, American Overseas School of Rome 25  
Rota 43, Marymount 16  
London Central 59, Baumholder 36  
**Division IV semifinals**  
Brussels 77, Alconbury 57  
Iceland 54, Meyers Hill 53  
**Friday's games**  
**Division I**  
Third place  
Kaiserslautern 56, Wiesbaden 42  
**Championship**  
Ramstein vs. Würzburg, late

**Seminifinals**  
Hanau 61, Mannheim 49  
Aviano 76, Naples 57  
**Division II**  
**Single elimination**  
Vicezza 78, Ramstein 47  
Rota 63, Signonella 46  
**Seminifinals**  
Ansbach 61, London Central 42  
Rota 65, Vicezza 44  
**Division III**  
Alconbury 57, Mannheim 49  
Brussels 58, Iceland 53  
**Brussels 58, Iceland 29**  
**Scoring:** T.J. Short 10, Andy Castro 6, Brent Balfanz 6, Nick Kay 3, Jay Sison 3; Bruc Matt Arns 2, Ryan Proetto 2, Logan Quinn 10, Mike Moysiewicz 3, Jacob Williams 4.

**Division IV all-tournament team**  
Logan Quinn (MVP) and Matt Arns, Brussels; Brent Balfanz, London; Andy Castro, Ankara; Brent Balfanz and Anthony Short, Iceland; Ryan Proetto, Alconbury; Josh Hayes, Incirlik.  
**Saturday's games**  
**Division I**  
Third place  
Naples vs. Mannheim, 1:30 p.m. at Sullivan Barracks

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**Championship**  
Hanau vs. Aviano, 7 p.m. at BFV Sports Arena  
**Division III**  
Third place  
Vicezza vs. London Central, 10:30 a.m. at Sullivan Barracks  
**Championship**  
Ansbach vs. Rota, 3 p.m. at BFV Sports Arena

#### Girls

##### Thursday's late results

**Seminifinals**  
Afnorth 21, BFA 15  
Mannheim 54, Naples 42  
Vilseck 51, Aviano 39  
**Division III**  
Hohenfels 36, Gieszen 30  
Rota 42, Marymount 12  
London Central 50, Vicezza 32  
**Division IV**  
Seminifinals  
Alconbury 49, Menwith Hill 26  
Brussels 36, Milan 14  
**Friday's games**  
Third place  
Heidelberg 37, Mannheim 18  
**Championship**  
Ramstein 41, Kaiserslautern 37

### Ramstein 41, K-town 37

**Kaiserslautern** 8 11 13-41  
**Scoring:** Ramon Krissy Groselin 18, Kaylen Ramtiller 15, Dallas Norman 9, Corinne Lauter 2, Jessica Ruiz 2, Kaye Lindsey Hyter 8, Dekia Moore 8, Anisha Ingram 7, Brit Smith 6, Doree Moore 5, Bianca Gerren-Perez 2, Shondra Harvey 2.

**Seminifinals**  
Naples 23, Vilseck 21  
Hanau 39, Mannheim 29  
**Division III**  
**Single elimination**  
Ansbach 46, Baltimore 23  
Signonella 44, Gieszen 39  
Rota 20, London Central 29  
Baumholder 36, Mannheim 21  
**Seminifinals**  
Ansbach vs. Rota, late  
Signonella vs. Rota, late  
**Division IV**  
Third place  
Milan 39, Mannheim 29  
**Championship**  
Alconbury 35, Brussels 34

**Brussels 35, Alconbury 34**  
**Scoring:** Bruc Elizabeth Christina Arns 20, Claire B. Bottesini 8, Whitney Hennes 8, Katie Westler 6, Caitlin Quinn 2, Andy Kusla Hunt 10, Carly Bascom 3, Katie Schroeder 7, Christina Arns 5, Kim Woodcock 4.  
**Division IV all-tournament team**  
Carly Bascom (MVP), Christina Arns, Arns and Keshia Hunt, Alconbury; Claire Bottesini, Whitney Hennes, Elizabeth Mellicker and Caitlin Quinn, Brussels; Megan Philip, Milan; Nora Al-Schwey, Ankara.

**Saturday's games**  
**Division I**  
Third place  
Mannheim vs. Wiesloch, noon at Sullivan Barracks  
**Championship**  
Hanau vs. Naples, 5 p.m. at BFV Sports Arena

Teams T80, 9 a.m. at Sullivan Barracks  
Teams T80, 1 p.m. at BFV Sports Arena

## Lady Royals earn their crown



RAYMOND T. CONWAY/Stars and Stripes

Ramstein's Krissy Groselin, left, tries to receive a pass as Kaiserslautern's Dupe Babatunde defends. Groselin inadvertently knocked the ball out of bounds and gave Kaiserslautern a chance to tie the game with under 20 seconds left, but Ramstein held on to win 41-37 to capture the Division I title.

# Hanau boys, girls face Italy teams in final

BY RUSTY BRYAN  
Stars and Stripes

MANHEIM, Germany — It will be Hanau vs. Italy in the European Division II basketball championships Saturday at Benjamin Franklin Village Sports Arena.

Hanau's top-seeded boys earned the right to defend their title with a 61-49 victory over third-seeded Mannheim in a semifinal on Friday. Hanau's girls atoned for last season's semifinal exit with a 39-29 victory over top-seeded Mannheim.

Hanau will face two champions from Italy who are making their first foray into the D-II tournament after previously playing in D-III. Aviano's unbeaten boys defeated Naples 76-57, while the Naples girls edged Vicezza 23-21.

In the boys' game, Hanau's outside-inside combination of sophomore guard Jeremy Marshall and senior center Marcus Fontanez did the damage for the defending champions. Marshall, connecting on five of 10 three-point tries, scored 29 points, and Fontanez added 20 points as Hanau continued its unbeaten campaign.

Fontanez also pulled down 15 rebounds, blocked two shots and had two assists.

Mannheim, which lost to Hanau in last year's title game, had no answer for Marshall and Fontanez. Earl Lee topped the Bison with 12 points while Jamal Wornble had 10.

In the other boys semifinal, Aviano junior Dustin Miller poured in 27 points, and teammate Tony Williams added 21 as the Saints (17-0) romped past Naples, last year's European D-III champs. Noah Stevenson led Naples with 18 points.

In the girls' semifinals, sophomore Kyril Bye-Nagel scored 21 points, and All-Europe center Katisha Fauntleroy collected 11 rebounds to lead Naples with 18 points.

"We knew we had to work hard," Bye-Nagel said of the adjustment Hanau made after falling to Mannheim 29-26 on Feb. 11. "We had to spread our zone defense further to the outside."

Taking the zone outside helped Hanau limit Mannheim's Nyeshia Green, who entered the game averaging more than 20 points a game, to just 11. Green was 3-for-7 from beyond the three-point arc, but all of their came with her team trailing by at least eight points.

In the second game, junior forward Mikal Willmer scored the final four points for Naples, which held on for a two-point victory despite being outscored 11-6 in the final period.

**Division I semifinals:** Ramstein and Würzburg advanced to the D-I final with close wins Thursday night.

Ramstein's Brennan Relaford banked in a missed shot from the left side of the lane with one-tenth of a second left in overtime to hand the Royals a 60-58 victory over Kaiserslautern.

"I didn't know how much time was left," said Relaford, who scored 14 of his game-high 18 points after halftime. "I just put it back up."

Relaford's heroics came seconds after Kaiserslautern's Brian Hill had muscled up a putback shot on the lane with 10 seconds left. Ramstein rushed the ball down the right sideline, and Relaford James attempted a three, which bounced into Relaford's waiting arms.

In the other D-I semifinal, Würzburg held off Wiesbaden 45-41 in a game in which both sides shot poorly in the first half. Wiesbaden shot 14 percent from the floor (3-for-21), while

Würzburg managed just 29 percent on its way to a 14-11 halftime lead.

"I think everyone was a little too excited," said Würzburg coach Allen Archie. "You have to give Wiesbaden a lot of credit. They fought back."

Almost all the way back. The Warriors, who trailed by as many as 13 in the second half, reduced the deficit to one with 1:36 to go. Then Wiesbaden's David Bradford stole an inbound pass and moved to the basket, only to be whistled for charging and fouling out with 44 seconds to play. The call so irked Wiesbaden coach Carl Johnson that he drew a technical that gave Würzburg's Mike Randle two free throws, which he made to help win the game.

**Division III playoffs:** Action in the Division III tournament continued Friday with quarterfinals and semifinals. Ansbach defeated London Central 61-42 and Rota beat Vicezza 65-44 in the boys semifinals, while Aviano and Baumholder and Signonella was taking on Rota in the late girls semifinals. Title games will be Saturday afternoon.

E-mail Rusty Bryan at: [bryan@mail.es-stripes.osd.mil](mailto:bryan@mail.es-stripes.osd.mil)

# Clarett back in spotlight in NFL combine

BY MICHAEL MAROT  
The Associated Press

INDIANAPOLIS — Some of college football's top running backs were overshadowed in the NFL combine by someone who had just nine college starts and hasn't played in years. Now it's up to Maurice Clarett to live up to the hype.

"I made some mistakes that are obvious to everybody in this room," Clarett said. "And I paid for them."

Clarett was the main topic of conversation Thursday even in this year's deep crop of powerful, fast, multidimensional and tested backs.

"I've not seen him play in a couple of years," said Cedric Benson, who ran for more than 5,000 yards and helped Texas win the Rose Bowl. "Regardless of what he's been through, someone is going to like him, someone is going to love him and someone is going to pick him up."

Benson just blended in the crowd with Auburn's Ronnie Brown and Cornell's "Cadillac" Williams — the best running back tandem in the nation's last year — and Frank Gore, who re-established himself as the strong runner who once beat out Willis McGahee for Miami's starting job.

From general managers to coaches, other running backs to a kicker, everyone got questioned about Clarett.

When he arrived in the interview room, all but a handful of reporters huddled around a podium. Gore, sitting near the back of the room, was almost ignored. Asked whether he had interest in bethel, Gore responded: "No, no, not at all. I'd be all right if no people were in front of me."



Maurice Clarett felt remorse about his checkered past on Thursday, saying in the NFL combine, "I made some mistakes that are obvious to everybody in this room. And I paid for them."

But Clarett must do more than confront his poor public image.

While Benson, Brown, Williams and Gore were proving themselves on the field the past two seasons, Clarett was watching games on television hoping for an opportunity to play in the NFL.

Now he must deal with the consequences of sitting out his sophomore season because of a suspension, losing a court battle to enter the NFL Draft entry and accusing Ohio State of NCAA violations.

Clarett weighed 234 pounds, 3 pounds lighter than last year when he was criticized for being out of shape.

When Clarett was asked about his past, he appeared more humble.

The scouts want to see how much he has learned.

A year ago, in his first combine appearance, Clarett didn't work out. This year, in a rare second appearance, Clarett announced he would work out this weekend.

But his colleagues have their own battles this week.

While Benson rushed for 1,867 yards, 19 touchdowns and pushed his way into elite status by averaging 5.6 yards per carry, he has been dogged by an October comment in which he said he'd rather win the Heisman Trophy than beat rival Oklahoma.

That has raised questions about his willingness to be a team player.

"It was my childhood dream and I spoke from the heart," he said. "If I could have changed the answer, I would. But it would be a lie."

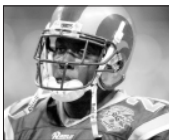
Gore may have an easier case — he just has to prove he's healthy and that's he regained his form after season-ending injuries in 2002 and 2003.

As Clinton Portis' backup in 2001, Gore averaged 9.1 yards per carry as a freshman. Then, he missed all of 2002 after hurting his right knee and the second half of the 2003 season after injuring his left knee.

Last year, he rushed for 945 yards rushing and eight touchdowns even though he said he played at a heavier weight than normal.

Gore measured 5-9½, 217 pounds and insisted he's ready to follow the lead of Edgerrin James, Portis and McGahee as Miami's next big NFL back.

"Every team brought in five or six doctors," Gore said. "But it's good, the knee is real strong."



St. Louis Rams RB Marshall Faulk (above), who will back up Steven Jackson this season, will make \$2 million in base salary. He would have made \$6 million.

## RB Faulk agrees to pay cut

THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

ST. LOUIS — Marshall Faulk, now resigned to a backup role with the Rams, has agreed to a pay cut in a restructured contract

### NFL briefs

that will essentially guarantee he'll end his career in St. Louis. Faulk, an 11-year NFL veteran who turns 32 Saturday, just finished the third year of a seven-year contract. He would have made \$6 million in salary and workout bonuses in 2005.

Under the new four-year deal, Faulk gets a \$2 million signing bonus this year, and will earn \$2 million in both 2005 and 2006, said his agent, Rocky Arceaneux. Arceaneux said the salary would average \$3 million per year over the four years of the deal.

"His motive was not wanting to leave," Arceaneux said. "Obviously with a backup, it's hard to justify making \$7 million a year."

He had options probably to go somewhere else and maybe start, but he felt at this point in his career he had accomplished enough as a starter and he can contribute as a backup.

Earlier this month, coach Mike Martz said that rookie Steven Jackson would be the starter next season. Jackson was the team's first-round pick last year.

The new agreement saves about \$1.5 million in salary cap space.

### Browns tell DT Warren to shop for deal

CLEVELAND — The Cleveland Browns have given disappointed defensive tackle Geri Warren permission to seek a trade.

With the team switching to a 3-4 defense next season under new coach Romeo Crennel, the under-achieving Warren, the No. 3 overall pick in the 2001 draft, might not fit into Cleveland's plans.

Crennel and general manager Paul Brown met with Warren earlier this week and told him he had until March 2 to try to work out a deal with another team. Warren is due a roster bonus on that date.

Savage said that if Warren can't find a trade, he'll be traded to the Browns, he may still remain with the team.

## Derek Jeter Center might be coming to Boston

The Associated Press

BOSTON — The arena is in downtown Boston, the heart of Red Sox Nation. There couldn't be a bigger insult than to name it after the captain of the hated New York Yankees.

But that's just what Manhattan lawyer Kerry Konrad aims to do next Tuesday after his \$2.325 bid won an eBay auction giving him the one-day naming rights to the FleetCenter.

Konrad's proposed name: the Derek Jeter Center, after the Yankees shortstop.

His winning bid took the FleetCenter brass into a dilemma. "I told him, I don't think we can approve that name," said arena spokesman Jim Delaney said.

He said he would discuss it Friday with FleetCenter president Richard Kresnick and a decision would be made by the end of the day. Arena officials have reserved the right to approve or reject a winning bid.

The name would be added to the Boston Celtics and Bruins. The name became obsolete after Bank of America acquired FleetBoston Financial last year and the Charlotte, N.C., banking giant opted not to retain the naming rights.

While the arena's owner, Delaware North Co., searches for a long-term partner, it has been offering one-day naming rights on eBay and donating the proceeds to charity.

## Paerson wins women's super-G

The Associated Press

SAN SICARIO, Italy — Sweden's Anja Paerson won a super giant slalom Friday to inaugurate the course for next year's Turin Olympics, her first victory in a speed event at the World Cup level.

Paerson boosted her lead in the overall standings and proved her victory in the super-G in last month's world championships was no fluke. She covered the Pratetve Olympic course in 1 minute, 31.85 seconds.

Italy's Isabelle Kostner, an early starter, was second, 0.57 seconds behind, for her best result this season. Austria's Michaela Dorfmeister and Slovenia's Tina Maze tied for third, 0.65 behind.

The top American was Lindsey Kildow, who was 13th.

"I didn't make one big mistake and maybe that was the problem," Kildow said. "Maybe I needed to push my line a bit more."

Paerson leads Janica Kostelic of Croatia 1,061,998 in the overall standings. Kostelic tied for first with Hilde Gjerde of Germany.

Paerson was behind Kostner at the first check-point, then picked up her pace on the bottom section, where several favorites lost time.

"I would never have imagined that I would win the super-G of the world championships and then another in World Cup," Paerson said. "I knew I had a good run, but I didn't think I did anything so special. Something has changed in my style this season and I hope it keeps going."

Kildow, who had four fourth-place finishes in the worlds, was on pace for a top-three finish until losing a big chunk of time on the bottom part of the course. "I don't know what happened. It's a course that's really, really easy and it's easy to lose time," she said. "I'm pretty disappointed. I don't know if there is any way I can win the title now, but you never know what will happen in the next race."

### Federer barely advances in Dubai

DUBAI, United Arab Emirates — Top-ranked Roger Federer saved two match points and beat Juan Carlos Ferrero 4-6, 3-7, 6-6 (3) Thursday to advance to the quarterfinals of the Dubai Open.

Federer, who won his third straight match in a



The top American in Friday's World Cup super-G in Italy was Lindsey Kildow, who finished 13th.

third-seed tiebreaker, will face seventh-seeded Mikhail Youzhny, a 7-5, 6-4 winner over Rainer Schuetzler.

"He should have won the match," Federer said of Ferrero. "He had match points before me."

Third-seeded Tim Henman beat Ivan Andreev 7-6 (5), 6-1, and will face Ivan Ljubicic, who won 6-2, 6-2, 6-1, and Ferrero 6-7 (4), 6-4, 7-6 (8).

Ferrero, the 2001 Dubai champion, led 6-4 in the third-seed tiebreaker before Federer saved one match point with a big serve and Ferrero the next point long. Federer then closed out the match with a huge serve.

### Mauresmo, Sharapova reach semis in Qatar

DOHA, Qatar — Top-seeded Amelie Mauresmo defeated Maria Kirilenko of Russia 6-2, 6-2 Thursday to move into the semifinals of the Qatar Open.

Mauresmo will face fourth-seeded Alicia Molik of Australia in Friday's semifinals, while Wimbledon champion Maria Sharapova will play former top-five player Daniela Hantuchova of Slovakia.

Mauresmo, winner of 10 of 12 matches this year, is trying to play in her third consecutive final. She lost in Paris in the Open Gaz de France before beating Venus Williams in the Diamond Games at Antwerp, Belgium, on Sunday.

Sharapova, who defeated Marion Bartoli of France 6-3, 6-2 to reach her third semifinals in as many events this year.

# Top seeds advance at soggy La Costa

The Associated Press

CARLSBAD, Calif. — The Match Play Championship finally got under way at a golf course still under water.

Two-time defending champion Tiger Woods won his 13th consecutive match, but not without wiping mud from his eyes after hitting out of the mucky fairways Thursday at the wetlands known as La Costa Resort. Nine of the top 10 seeds advanced to the second round.

Otherwise, it was a good walk soiled.

"Disgusting. Absolutely disgusting," Robert Allenby said after an easy victory over British Open champion Todd Hamilton. "It was a normal tournament, we wouldn't be playing. You can't even walk down the fairways."

"They didn't need marshals at La Costa, they needed lifeguards. The fairways were so saturated that Davis Love III spent 10 minutes looking for a dry patch of grass."

The greens were soft and spongy, and players had to contend with heel prints — some swore the prints were so deep they cast a shadow late in the day. Woods said he would have been better off putting on a waffle iron.

"At least a waffle iron is the same height," he said after coasting to a 4-and-3 victory over Nick Price. "You can hit good putts and look great, and hit good putts and look like an absolute idiot."

Tees were moved up to avoid landing areas that resembled swamps, the biggest change coming on the 467-yard ninth. The second-longest par 4 at La Costa was converted into the shortest par 3, playing 162 yards because there



AP

**Top-seeded Vijay Singh won easily on the first day of the Match Play Championship.**

wasn't a dry spot in the fairway. "The course was really unplayable," Stuart Appleby said after beating Joakim Haegmann in one of only two matches that required extra holes. "We had stroke play, there was no chance of playing today. And match play was a mess."

But that's why they played. This fickle format is about beating another player, not the course, and everyone faced the same conditions brought on by heavy rain earlier in the week that delayed the start of the Match Play Championship by one day.

Some handled it better than others.

Vijay Singh, the No. 1 seed who has never advanced beyond the second round, built a quick lead against Shingo Katayama and sailed to a 4-and-3 victory.

"You just have to go with the flow," Singh said, presumably talking about the conditions in more ways than one. "If you let that mentally disturb you, you're going to have a problem. It was a good result for me."

Phil Mickelson made two birdies to start the second nine and

led by as many as four holes before dispatching short-hitting Loren Roberts, 3 and 1. Retief Goosen went the distance with Stephen Leaney, winning 1 up.

Mike Weir of Canada, the No. 5 seed, was the only player among the top 10 who headed home. Weir fought to the end, making a 20-foot birdie putt on the 18th hole to keep alive his chances, but Kirk Triplett rolled in a tricky 4-footer to advance to the second round.

Not many felt worse than Jim Furyk. He made six birdies and ran into one of the hottest players at La Costa, Ian Poulter of England, who made seven birdies for a 3-and-1 victory.

After two days of limited practice and play because of the rain, players gave the sparse gallery plenty of golf to watch under sunny skies. Sixteen matches went the distance, tying the record set last year at La Costa. Only two of them required more than 18 holes, and the last one was perhaps the most dramatic of the day.

Nick O'Hern of Australia, playing in this event for the first time since he reached the quarterfinals four years ago, won three straight holes to take a 1-up advantage on Charles Howell III.

Howell holed a 20-foot birdie putt on the 18th to force extra holes, and O'Hern answered with a 20-footer on No. 1 to win in 19 holes.

For all that work, O'Hern gets to play Woods in the second round.

Woods had few problems against three-time major winner Nick Price, winning four of the first eight holes and still missing his share of short putts.

There were not many gimmes, not on these greens.

"I was only the fifth group out, and I had Darren Clarke in front of me, and he's got his size 12s,"

Allenby said. "His heel prints were probably 3 inches deep."

The biggest issue was the squishy fairways, which kept the ball from rolling and made the course longer. But big hitters lost their advantage with so many tee boxes moved forward — and a couple of them moved slightly back, all to bring the dry sections of the course into play.

"For what it is out here, La Costa did pretty good," Jerry Kelly said.

**Mayfair, Tiziani lead in Tucson**

TUCSON, Ariz. — Billy Mayfair, trying to bounce back from the worst of his 16 PGA Tour seasons, and Mario Tiziani, who went to qualifying school 12 times before earning his tour card in December, each shot 3-under-par 63 to share a one-stroke lead in the Chrysler Classic of Tucson.

Steve Stricker bogeyed the 18th hole and dropped into a five-way tie for third place with Mark Calcavecchia, Michael Allen, Lucas Glover and Darron Stiles.

The 144-man field set first-round records for scoring average (69.878) and eagles (22).

**Rosales in front in LPGA's first full-field event of '05**

KAHUKU, Hawaii — Jennifer Rosales shot 6-under-par 66 for a two-stroke lead after the first round of the LPGA Tour's season-opening SBS Open, and 15-year-old Michelle Wie is four shots back after a 70.

Angela Stanford, Lorena Ochoa, Heather Bowie and Sung Ah Yim trail by two strokes. Juli Inkster opened with a 69.

Wie, who lives a bit more than an hour away from course, was in a large group at 70 that included Grace Park, Carin Koch, Pat Hurst, and Cristie Kerr.

## Match Play Championship

Thursday's results

At La Costa Resort and Spa, Carlsbad, Calif.

Round: 57 holes; 18 holes

Yardage: 7,257; Par 72

Seeds in Parentheses

BEST ROUND

Davis Love III (8) def. Chris Riley (56), 1 up.

Lee Westwood (46) def. Steve Friesen (41), 4 and 3.

Gracie McDowell (52) def. Darren Clarke (23), 1 up.

Robert Allenby (44) def. Todd Hamilton (23), 1 up.

Stuart Appleby (10) def. Joakim Haegmann (19), 1 up.

Ian Poulter (42) def. Jim Furyk (23), 3 and 1.

Tom Lehman (40) def. A.J. Choi (25), 4 and 2.

Kirk Triplett (60) def. Mike Weir (5), 1 up.

Padraig Harrington (7) def. Rory Sabbatini (39) def. Thomas Bjorn (26), 5 and 3.

Sergio Garcia (16) def. Alex Cejka (39), 4 and 2.

Jerry Kelly (38) def. Scott Verplank (27), 1 up.

Chris DiMarco (16) def. Tim Herron (69), 1 up.

Chris Samuels (10) def. Fredrick Jacobson (40), 3 up.

Miguel Angel Jimenez (13) def. Rod Pampling (52), 3 and 2.

Vijay Singh (1) def. Fred Couples (39), 1 up.

Kenny Perry (15) def. Zach Johnson (50), 3 and 2.

Luke Donald (18) def. Thomas Levet (47), 4 and 3.

Mark Henley (44) def. Richard Green (53), 1 up.

Mark Henley (44) def. Stephen Ames (19), 7 and 6.

Vijay Singh (1) def. Shingo Katayama (64), 4 and 3.

Jay Haas (33) def. Jonathan Van Ga (32), 4 and 2.

Retief Goosen (6) vs. Stephen Leaney (61), 1 up.

Fred Couples (30) vs. Peter Lonard (29), 1 up.

Tiger Woods (2) def. Nick Price (63), 4 and 3.

Nick O'Hern (31) vs. Charles Howell III (34), 1 up.

Phil Mickelson (3) vs. Loren Roberts (62), 3 and 2.

Angel Cabrera (30) vs. Paul Casey (35), 4 and 2.

**Friday**

**Second-round matches**

Stewart Kirk (8) vs. Tom Lehman (40)

Davis Love III (8) vs. Lee Westwood (41)

(39)

Stuart Appleby (10) vs. Ian Poulter (42)

Vijay Singh (1) vs. Jay Haas (33)

Chris DiMarco (16) vs. John Daly (48)

Tiger Woods (2) vs. Nick O'Hern (31)

Kenny Perry (15) vs. Luke Donald (18)

(18) vs. Craig Parry (27)

Gracie McDowell (52) vs. Robert Allenby (23)

(23) vs. Sergio Garcia (16) vs. Jerry Kelly (38)

Adam Scott (11) vs. David Howell (43)

Retief Goosen (6) vs. Fred Couples (39)

Miguel Angel Jimenez (13) vs. Chad Campbell (20)

Phil Mickelson (3) vs. Angel Cabrera (30)

Davis Love III (8) vs. Mark Henley (44)



AP

**American Nastia Liukin competes in the 2003 Pan American Games in Santo Domingo, Dominican Republic.**

## Gymnastics sets up a new scoring system

BY NANCY ARMOUR

The Associated Press

Gymnastics found a way to overhaul its scoring system and still keep it perfect 10. Under a new system that would take effect next January, gymnasts would get separate marks for difficulty and execution, and the two would be added together for a final score. There'd be no limit to the difficulty score, but the execution mark would continue to be based on the 10.0 scale.

"Competitions will be emotionally charged with a double challenge for each gymnast: to reach the '10' in execution and break a new world record," the International Gymnastics Federation, known as the FIG, said Thursday.

The new scoring system still has to be ap-

proved by the FIG Council, spokesman Philippe Silacci said. There will be a symposium on the changes next month in Budapest, Hungary, and the council is scheduled to meet in May in Helsinki, Finland.

The FIG has been under fire for several years to change its Code of Points, the extensive guide to the difficulty values assigned to every move. In the current scoring system, a two-judge "A" panel sets the difficulty value for a routine, and the "B" panel takes deductions from that. The highest and lowest scores from the six-judge "B" panel are tossed out, and the remaining are averaged for one, final score.

But many say the system doesn't accurately reflect technical advances in the sport, with gymnasts limited to a maximum score of 10.0 no matter how difficult their routine. Scoring er-

rors in the men's events in the Athens Olympics and the debacle that followed Paul Hamm's victory in the all-around gave the issue new urgency.

"The level today of gymnastics and the start value has risen," FIG president Bruno Gradi said at Athens. "The difficulty score must be open-ended, but it must be compensated with (execution deductions)."

Though the perfect 10 has become something of a mythical mark — it hasn't been awarded in a major international competition since the 1992 Olympics — gymnastics fans didn't want it to disappear completely, either. In a poll on the federation's Web site, 66 percent said the 10 must remain the standard of perfection.

Another 22 percent said the 10 is the "soul of gymnastics," and that getting rid of it would "kill the sport."

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# Kings fall short without Webber

The Associated Press

DALLAS — Whenever the Sacramento Kings played the Dallas Mavericks the last few years, they turned to Chris Webber, Doug Christie or Vlade Divac to come up with big baskets or defensive stops.

Those days are long gone now.

Webber joined Christie and Divac as ex-Kings with his trade to Philadelphia on Wednesday night. In the first game without Webber, Sacramento opened strong and was up by nine in the fourth quarter, but wound up losing 122-113 in Dallas on Thursday night.

Dirk Nowitzki led the Mavericks' comeback by scoring 17 of his 34 points in the final period, including a short jumper with 4:39 left that put Dallas ahead for good. Michael Finley added two three-pointers after that to send the Kings to their third loss in four games, and seventh in nine.

The Webber trade and an injury to Peja Stojakovic left the Kings with only eight players, while Dallas opted to use only eight. The Mavs dressed just 10, including two rookie centers fresh off the injured list, because earlier in the day they sent big man Alan Henderson and Calvin Booth to Milwaukee for Keith Van Horn. Jerry Stackhouse also was out with an injury.

Dallas used its reserves a lot more than Sacramento, and the fresher legs seemed to pay off. The Mavericks had a 13-2 run among their season-best 40 wins in the fourth quarter while the weary, emotionally drained Kings went nearly 4½ minutes without a field goal down the stretch.

"Our team is very resilient and if we are to get through this, we're going to have to fight through this," Sacramento coach Rick Adelman said. "Being on the road, making a trade and having Peja out, there are no answers. We have to play hard and smart and we'll be OK."

This loss made for a bad start to a six-game, nine-day road trip that continues Saturday — in Philadelphia, against Webber and the 76ers. At least Sacramento will have at least three new players and maybe Stojakovic, too.



## Roundup

Playing at home for the first time in 16 days, Dallas maintained the momentum of its 5-0 road trip, a franchise best that included wins in Phoenix, Seattle and Sacramento.

Marquis Daniels started for the first time since Dec. 6 and had season-highs with 29 points and eight assists, plus nine rebounds.

Finley added 22 points, six rebounds and four assists. Josh Howard had 16 points and nine rebounds, and Devin Harris added 11 points before spraining his neck on the play that led to coach Don Nelson's ejection.

"I'm really proud of us getting this win out," said Dallas assistant coach Avery Johnson, who took over when Don Nelson was ejected late in the third quarter. "They handled a lot of adversity during the course of the game."

Everybody that touched the court tonight contributed in some way."

Mike Bibby and Cuttino Mobley each scored 26 for the Kings, and Darius Songaila got off to a good start in his increased role by posting a career-high 23 points and a season-high 12 rebounds.

"It was obviously difficult without [Webber]," said center Brad Miller, who had 16 points and 15 rebounds. "He was playing real well for us and not having him there took some time to get used to. He's the guy everyone would look to and it was up to the rest of us to step it up. We're going to have to fill his shoes and make adjustments."

**Knicks 113, 76ers 101:** At New York, Kurt Thomas celebrated the passing of another uneventful trading deadline — at least for him — by scoring 21 points on 10-for-11 shooting.

Thomas also grabbed 12 rebounds, and Tim Thomas shot 10-for-14 and scored 27 points for New York.

Philadelphia, which had only eight players in uniform — none of them named Chris Webber — was led by Allen Iverson's 29 points.

Webber will make his 76ers



Sacramento Kings guard Mike Bibby, right, is fouled by Dallas Mavericks forward Josh Howard, left, in the second half Thursday.

debut Saturday against his former team, the Kings.

Stephon Marbury had 17 points and 12 assists, and Jamal Crawford added 16 points and nine assists for New York, which also was short-handed after trading Nazr Mohammed. Mookie Norris, Vin Baker and Jamison Brewer earlier in the day.

**Clippers 92, Timberwolves 86:** At Los Angeles, Elton Brand scored 24 points to help the Los Angeles Clippers snap an eight-game losing streak.

The Clippers, returning from a 1-8 road trip that seriously jeopardized their playoff hopes, never trailed during their first win against the Timberwolves in 10 tries. Corey Maggette added 19 points for Los Angeles and Chris Kaman had 13 points and 10 rebounds.

Kevin Garnett had 14 points and eight rebounds for Minnesota while playing just 32 minutes because of foul trouble. He played only four minutes in the third quarter after picking up his fourth foul with 8:20 left.

## NBA scoreboard

### Eastern Conference

| Atlantic Division |    |    |      |
|-------------------|----|----|------|
|                   | W  | L  | Pct  |
| Philadelphia      | 26 | 28 | .481 |
| New Jersey        | 17 | 38 | .308 |
| Toronto           | 22 | 32 | .407 |
| New York          | 22 | 40 | .355 |

### Southeast Division

|            | W  | L  | Pct  |
|------------|----|----|------|
| Miami      | 19 | 26 | .419 |
| Washington | 11 | 32 | .256 |
| Orlando    | 10 | 32 | .239 |
| Charlotte  | 10 | 32 | .239 |
| Atlanta    | 10 | 32 | .239 |

### Central Division

|           | W  | L  | Pct  |
|-----------|----|----|------|
| Detroit   | 19 | 26 | .419 |
| Cleveland | 11 | 32 | .256 |
| Chicago   | 10 | 32 | .239 |
| Indiana   | 10 | 32 | .239 |
| Milwaukee | 10 | 32 | .239 |

### Western Conference

#### Southwest Division

|             | W  | L  | Pct  |
|-------------|----|----|------|
| San Antonio | 42 | 12 | .775 |
| Dallas      | 37 | 17 | .686 |
| Houston     | 29 | 25 | .538 |
| Memphis     | 30 | 26 | .538 |
| New Orleans | 24 | 32 | .431 |

#### Northwest Division

|           | W  | L  | Pct  |
|-----------|----|----|------|
| Seattle   | 19 | 26 | .419 |
| Minnesota | 17 | 28 | .379 |
| Denver    | 17 | 28 | .379 |
| Portland  | 17 | 28 | .379 |
| Utah      | 17 | 28 | .379 |

#### Pacific Division

|              | W  | L  | Pct  |
|--------------|----|----|------|
| Phoenix      | 32 | 13 | .709 |
| Sacramento   | 28 | 24 | .538 |
| L.A. Lakers  | 28 | 24 | .538 |
| Golden State | 16 | 36 | .308 |

### Thursday's games

#### Friday's games

#### Saturday's games

#### Sunday's games

#### Knicks 113, 76ers 101

#### Philadelphia

#### Knicks 113, 76ers 101

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# Shaq has mild sprain, expected to play again soon

The Associated Press

MIAMI — Miami Heat All-Star center Shaquille O'Neal has a mildly sprained left knee and might play Saturday against the Orlando Magic.

An MRI exam confirmed a very mild sprain to the team said Thursday. O'Neal didn't respond to reporters waiting outside the hospital, and is listed as day to day.

He was injured in the first two minutes of Tuesday's game in Chicago when he leaped to catch an alley-oop pass from Dwyane Wade and landed awkwardly atop Bulls forward Gabe Harris. O'Neal stayed on the court for several minutes, clearly in pain.

He didn't return to the game, and missed



Wednesday's contest at Indiana. Miami, which leads the Eastern Conference with a 40-16 record, lost both games in overtime.

O'Neal, a 12-time All-Star, is averaging 22.7 points — on an NBA-best 59.9 percent from the field — and 10.4 rebounds this season. He has missed only two full games because of injuries this year, compared with 15 in each of his previous three seasons with the Los Angeles Lakers.

**Shooter injury benches White for season**

CHARLOTTE, N.C. — Charlotte Bobcats center Jahdi White will undergo surgery on

his right shoulder and miss the rest of the season, the team said Thursday.

White had been on and off the injured list since hurting his shoulder Nov. 30 at New Jersey.

He appeared in a total of 18 games this season, averaging 2.5 points and 2.0 rebounds. A seven-year veteran, White was chosen by the Bobcats from Phoenix in last June's expansion draft.

Also Thursday, the Bobcats said the Cleveland Cavaliers have lifted all conditions on a 2005 first-round draft pick that Charlotte acquired during the expansion draft. That guarantees the Bobcats at least two picks in the first round.

# Some won, some lost in flurry of trades

BY SAM SMITH  
Chicago Tribune

Once they would have been somewhat of a dream team: Gary Payton and Baron Davis in the backcourt, Antoine Walker and Glenn Robinson at forward and Chris Webber in the middle. Now they're the wishes and hopes of the desperate.

These five former All-Stars were among almost three-dozen players to change teams late Wednesday and Thursday in one of the wildest NBA trading deadline days in recent memory.

Walker, a free agent-to-be, is surprisingly returning to Boston, which he left amid bitter complaints about selfish play from general manager Danny Ainge. To bottom-feeder Atlanta goes Payton, and the over/under on him coming up with a season-ending hamstring injury is about a week. The Hawks also could release him and let him sign with a contender.

Robinson, also a free agent-to-be who hasn't played all season, goes to salary-clearing New Orleans, which dealt Baron Davis to the Warriors.

Webber went to the 76ers late Wednesday. He's expected to fuel their run to the vaunted Atlantic Division title and give them a chance to finish above .500.

Other big names (now lacking big names) among those traded were former All-Stars Tom Gugliotta, Dale Davis and Vin Baker and such solid contributors such as Nazr Mohammed, Malik Cotton, Corliss Williamson, Jiri Welsh, Rodney Rogers, Keith Van Horn, Speedy Claxton and Mo Taylor. And Steve Smith was said to be headed to Miami.

The bigger surprise might be who wasn't traded: The Toronto Raptors, with almost half their roster demanding trades at some point this season, failed in their bid to land a high draft pick and kept Donnell Marshall, Jalen Rose and Eric Williams. Coach Sam Mitchell hasn't said if he intends to fight any of them now that the deadline has passed.

The Milwaukee Bucks retained free agent Michael Redd, making a deal designed to free up money to re-sign him.

And the Portland Trail Blazers held onto free agents Shareef Abdur-Rahim and Damon Stoudamire, perhaps to save coach Maurice Cheeks' sanity.

Here's a look at who came out ahead and who didn't.

## Winners

**Philadelphia 76ers:** Wednesday's late deal for Webber gives them scoring help for Allen Iverson. On Thursday they added Rogers, a favorite of coach Jim O'Brien from their Boston days and another perimeter threat. The Webber deal cost them depth in Williamson and Kenny Thomas, the Rogers deal money. They took on inactive Jamal Mashburn, whose contract runs through next season. But they're out under Robinson, who goes to the Hornets.

It's a nice short-term move for the 76ers, but Webber is owed

## Analysis



**The Sacramento Kings will find out if they are a better team without it Chris Webber, who went to Philadelphia in a six-player deal.**

more than \$60 million for the next three seasons. And like Iverson, he's a strong personality who likes to monopolize the ball and the team.

There's potential for fireworks. The 76ers play the Kings on Saturday.

**Cleveland Cavaliers:** They picked up point guard Welsh from the Celtics for a No. 1 pick in 2007. The Cavs believe they can make a serious playoff run and hope Welsh can relieve their perimeter shooting problems.

**Milwaukee Bucks:** Sure, you thought they'd never overcome the loss of Zondra Hamilton. They also sent guard Mike James to Houston and cleared salary space by sending Van Horn to Dallas for free agent Alan Henderson and Calvin Booth. It should position them to re-sign Redd and retain a nucleus moving forward while adding reserve guard Reese Gaines.

**Houston Rockets:** James is a good pickup to replace Bob Sura, who is out indefinitely with back problems. The addition of Sura and Jon Barry helped ignite their plodding offense. The Rockets also get guard Moochie Norris in the Taylor deal.

**Sacramento Kings:** They gave up Webber, the best player in all the deals, but there's that addi-



**Guard Baron Davis (1), a two-time All-Star who finished sixth in the NBA in scoring last season, will form a potent backcourt combination with Golden State's Jason Richardson.**

tion-by-subtraction thing. With Webber the Kings were 38-31 the last two regular seasons. Without him they were 51-16. Team insiders say Webber's return slowed down the Kings last season after they'd been in first place much of the season, and he was overly critical of certain teammates, most notably Peja Stojakovic.

The Kings are a different team with Wade Davis and Doug Christie gone and Bobby Jackson hurt again. They want to build around Stojakovic, Mike Bibby and Brad Miller without Webber dominating things. Thomas and Williamson are role players who should help.

**San Antonio Spurs:** Not that they need to get better, but Mohammed is a nice pickup as a backup big man. He's having his

best season, and they were already ready to pay a team to take Rose's contract, which has four years and more than \$27 million left this season. The Spurs give up their 2006 No. 1 and the Suns' No. 1 this year.

## Losers

**Boston Celtics:** It's never quite clear what they're doing. They hated Walker and his game, so they got him back with two months left on his contract. They also traded both their point guards, Payton and Welsh, in order to play rookie Delonte West? Gugliotta and Michael Stewart went to Atlanta with Payton for Walker. The Hawks also get a No. 1 pick.

**New York Knicks:** It may be the way to go, but they'll now have a way to go. They took on more than \$30 million in salary again — wouldn't you like to work there? — but also seemed to start a commitment to rebuilding through the draft by acquiring picks, though not great ones. They get the Suns' No. 1 for this season (Phoenix has the Bulls' from the Luol Deng trade) and the Suns' for next season. They get two more undersized power forwards in Taylor and Rose and give up starting center Mohammed and point guard Norris.

**Dallas Mavericks:** Van Horn seems like a decent pickup for Henderson and Booth, who rarely play. But Van Horn, with a \$16 million salary next season, recently returned from an ankle injury and doctors are limiting him to 15 minutes a game. Just what Dallas needs: another shooter who doesn't defend. They do this and couldn't afford to pay Steve Nash?

## NBA deadline deals Wednesday

**PHILADELPHIA 76ERS**—Acquired F Chris Webber from the Sacramento Kings for F Brian Skinner, Jimmy Thomas and F Corliss Williamson.

## Thursday

**BOSTON CELTICS**—Traded G Jiri Welsh to Cleveland for a 2007 first-round draft pick. Traded G Gary Payton, F Tom Gugliotta and C Michael Stewart to Atlanta for F Antoine Walker and a first-round draft pick.

**DENVER NUGGETS**—Traded F Nikoloz Tskitishvili and F Rodney White to Golden State for F Eduardo Najera, G Luis Flores and a first-round draft pick. Speedy Claxton and F Dale Davis to New Orleans for G Baron Davis.

**MIAMI HEAT**—Acquired C Steve Smith from Charlotte for F Malik Allen and cash considerations.

**MILWAUKEE BUCKS**—Traded G Mike James and C Zondra Hamilton to Houston for C Ron Mercer and a 2007 second-round draft pick. Traded F Keith Van Horn to Dallas for Alan Henderson, C Calvin Booth and cash.

**SAN ANTONIO SPURS**—Traded C Mohammed and G Jamison Brewer to San Antonio for F Malik Rose and a 2005 and a 2006 first-round draft pick. Traded C Vin Baker and C Moochie Norris to Houston for F Maurice Taylor.

**PHILADELPHIA 76ERS**—Traded F Glenn Robinson to New Orleans for F Jamal Mashburn and F Rodney Rogers.



**Jiri Welsh, who was acquired by the Cleveland Cavaliers for a 2007 first-round draft pick to the Boston Celtics, will be counted on to help the Cavs' outside game.**

**Golden State Warriors:** Perennial back and attitude problems make Baron Davis a huge risk. A backcourt with him and Jason Richardson seems explosive, if not defensive-minded. But this will almost certainly lead to a trade of Mike Dunleavy for a role-playing big man because they have so many players on large long-term contracts and so few inside players.

Davis didn't exactly endear himself to his last colleague-to-pros coach, Tim Flory. The Warriors also had to deal Eduardo Najera's long-term contract to Denver to save money and get draft busts Nikola Tskitishvili and Rodney White.

**New Orleans Hornets:** Mardi Gras fireworks are over, so they blew up the team. They're dumping salary to stay in business by getting rid of Davis and Rogers, and Jamaal Magloire may be next when he returns from injury. They also save some money getting rid of Mashburn's contract, but they get the expiring \$12 million deal of Big Dog Robinson, plus Claxton and Dale Davis from the Warriors.



**Atlanta Hawks:** Antoine Walker, right, admires his former jersey while joking with Boston Celtics rookie Al Jefferson in Boston on Jan. 14. Walker, who played in Boston for seven seasons, is going back after the Celtics traded Gary Payton, Tom Gugliotta and Michael Stewart to Atlanta on Thursday. The Hawks will also get a first-round draft choice.

## SPORTS



Schilling tests ankle, throws off mound for first time since winning Game 2 of Series, Page 29

# Ramstein girls rule Div. I

## Lady Royals defeat K-town for fourth crown in five years

BY BEN MURRAY  
Stars and Stripes

MANNHEIM, Germany — The electric atmosphere of the girls European Division I championship game Friday night was encapsulated in a single moment, when a mid-range jump shot went up toward the basket.

As soon as the ball entered the air along the right wing, Ramstein coach Cecilia Grosselein grabbed her head in a moment of panic. Then she leaped off the court with both feet, fists in the air, as it banked into the net.

The shot was the second of two key jumpers from Lady Royals freshman Dallas Norman, who came off the bench to help Ramstein win the title with a 41-37 victory in a tough game against cross-town rival Kaiserslautern.

"Things happened at the right time," said Grosselein, whose team won its fourth championship in the past five years.

"This could've gone any way." That's what happened for most of the game, which both coaches predicted would be a tight, defensive contest.

Kaiserslautern defeated the Lady Royals twice during the regular season and lost to them during the divisional playoffs. The teams have won eight of the last nine Division I titles.

But both teams started the game showing signs of nervousness, running hard at each other in end-to-end drives to little effect. Ramstein's Kaylen Bannister, who finished with 10 points, blocked four shots in the first quarter and added a fifth in the second, while Kaiserslautern repeatedly blocked all Ramstein efforts to work the ball inside.

The heaviest scoring in the early going came from each team's aggressive guard. Kaiserslautern junior Lyndsey Hyter started the action with three

**More championship coverage inside:**

**Alcort girls edge Brussels to claim first Division IV title**

Page 30

**Boys keep Brussels from going home empty-handed in other Division IV championship**

Page 30

**Roundup of earlier tournament play**

Page 31

**Division I boys late**

Friday night's Division I boys championship game between Ramstein and Würzburg began too late to be reported in this edition. Full coverage of the game will be in Sunday's edition.

flashy drives, before being countered by Ramstein's star guard and coach's daughter, senior Krissy Grosselein, who led the Lady Royals with 18 points.

After the first half ended with Kaiserslautern up 17-15, Ramstein came out gunning in the third quarter, surging to a 25-19 behind the shooting of Norman, who finished with nine points.

In the late third and early fourth quarters, Ramstein relied more and more on the quickness and shooting of Grosselein. And with the Lady Raiders' go-to post player, Bianca Gerena-Perez, hobbled by fouls, Ramstein was able to hold on.

"As a senior, that's how I wanted to go out," Grosselein said.

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RAYMOND T. CONWAY/Stars and Stripes

Kaiserslautern's Shondrika Harvey, left, and Ramstein's Krissy Grosselein battle for the ball during the girls Division I championship in Mannheim, Germany, on Friday. Ramstein won the title with a 41-37 victory.

**Woods wins 13th consecutive match as Match Play Championship begins at wet La Costa**

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**Veteran RB Faulk may cut, backup role to remain with Rams**

Page 32



**Which teams made the best deals before the NBA trade deadline?**

Page 35

**Kings fall to Mavs in first game since Webber trade** Page 34

